All dogs go to NCAA Heaven
Huskies defeat Bulldogs to take title
Erin Murtagh
Assistant News Editor

Finishing with 16 points, junior guard Kemba Walker lead the Huskies to a 53-41 championship victory over Butler University last Monday night.

Finishing with a record of 32-0, the win marked the third NCAA title for the University of Connecticut, and the team’s 15th consecutive “tournament” win this year. This also comes in the wake of their overall victory at the Maui Invitational earlier this year, and the Big East tournament in March.

“It may be the happiest moment of my life,” said UConn head coach Jim Calhoun, in an article on the team’s official website.

Calhoun, at the age of 68, made history as the oldest coach in NCAA history to win the national championship. He also joins the ranks of John Wooden, Adolph Rupp, Mike Krzyzewski and Bobby Knight as one of only five coaches to win three national titles.

In the first half, UConn outshot and outrebounded the Bulldogs, who proved to be ice cold from the field all night. Shooting just over 22 percent, none of Butler’s points came from inside the paint.

The Spectrum/ Zack Lane

Trevor Kelly, Paul Cappadona, and Lindsay McGrath star in Sacred Heart’s rendition of “Little Shop of Horrors.”

‘LITTLE SHOP’ HITS EDGERTON STAGE
Megan Pulone
Staff Reporter

Do you get easily scared in front of a huge audience? Leave the stage fright behind and let the performers of the Theater Arts Program (TAP) show you what it’s like to be in the spotlight during the annual spring musical “Little Shop of Horrors.”

“It’s a movie and a classic Broadway musical,” said executive director, Jerry Goehring. “It gives students a different challenge in musical theater and allows them to sing in bigger-than-life character roles.”

TAP will hold four performances of the musical in the Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts starting tonight, Thursday, April 7 at 8 p.m. and will go all weekend ending on Sunday, April 9.

“I think it will go well,” said Linsay Tomaszczyk, a junior Ensemble performer. “We are all building the set and working together to make it a great show.”

The Huskies celebrate their NCAA tournament championship victory.

SHU junior run for mayor of Long Island hometown
Andrew Aletter
Contributing Writer

Michael Leboff, the advisor to the VP of the Senate and a junior of Sacred Heart, decided to enter the race for the mayor of Rockville Centre, for the June 21 mayor election. Leboff has no political experience, only taking an International Relations class at Sacred Heart; however he has asked that the voters of his town should not judge him on his age nor his lack of experience but on his views.

“I think it is good that young people of our generation can voice their opinion from more of an official position. I think our generation has a voice that needs to be heard,” junior Samuel Prunt said.

The “Leboff for mayor” campaign has several departments including a campaign management made up of college students from New York to Fairfield. The campaign staff currently is made up of college students with a heavy focus on using social media, like in the Obama campaign, to get the message out. Leboff currently has a staff which consists of his campaign manager Andrew Schustek, a Social Media department, led by Stephen Fiorentine, with departments for finances, a street team and an advertising department.

See LEBOFF on page 2...
Leboff wishes to have ‘positive impact’ on RVC

...CONTINUED from page 1

"I think it's good for Michael to be putting himself out there and representing the younger generation's voices," said sophomore Elizabeth Stewart. "He can definitely have an input on Rockville Centre unlike any other mayor they have had before regardless of his age."

Junior Kate Knislet said she agreed with his decision to run for the elected office. "More power to him, and it's very brave. If he is willing to fight for what he believes in, good for him," said Knislet.

Leboff's campaign to run for mayor is unusual but not still a rare occasion. In 2008, John Hammans ran for the mayor of Muskogee, Oklahoma at the age of 19 while still a freshman at the University of Oklahoma.

According to ABC News, the youngest mayor was Michael Sessions, of Hillsdale Michigan, who was just turned 18 before being elected as mayor in 2007 while still in High School. In the past couple of years around the Obama Election, there has been an increase of teenagers and early 20's running for political office, usually in small towns.

"This movement will get young people to enter the political arena and hopefully will be a beginning of a trend and show them that the political system is not closed," said Rose.

While the phenomena of young mayors being elected is focused on small towns, the effect has had a rip effect in political powers, with some of the mayors gaining regional recognition.

"I feel that Leboff should probably have more experience, but if he wants to do it he should, because you do not know what will happen," said sophomore Dave Manulli.
**Band-Aid Aid Japan raises money for relief efforts**

**Kelley Bligh  
Perspectives Editor**

When junior Jesus Martinez first heard about the tragic earthquake in Japan, his first instinct was to pack up and go over to Japan to lend a helping hand. As the earthquake was so sudden and devastating, it would take some time for outside volunteers to be able to join the reconstruction process.

Kelley Bligh

**Popular student band, Nonsense, performs at the benefit.**

**Lauren Kaili  
Staff Reporter**

"As I was walking to the parking lot after my last Friday class, I found my car with a hole surrounded by green paint above my bumper," said freshman Jennifer Dellemimico.

"About two months ago, Dellemimico's white Honda Accord was hit by what public safety suspected to be a green truck in the university's South parking lot.

"I only had my car up here for a weekend. It was hit in less than 24 hours of my car being here, and there are no security cameras to find out who did it," said Dellemimico.

According to Jack Fernandez, director of public safety, security cameras are located in many different parking lots on campus.

"We added several new cameras this past year in Curtis Hall, Angelo Roncalli, Scholars Commons, Christian Witness Commons, and at the Cambridge Campus. We try to concentrate on the areas that student pedestrians use most frequently," said Fernandez.

Although many new security cameras have been installed around campus, South parking lot does not have any.

"They need to put up a few more cameras in the other parking lots, such as South, and I could have caught the person that hit my car," said Dellemimico.

However, according to Fernandez, the security cameras are put in areas that look out for the people rather than their vehicles.

"My thought here is that we protect people rather than their vehicles. We don't want them to be able to drive away with a good conscience," said Fernandez.

Similar to Dellemimico, other students have faced issues with their cars being hit or side swiped. These students have not been able to catch the person who hit them because it was not caught on film due to the lack of cameras.

"I unfortunately had my car horribly side swiped in North lot. I was actually very lucky to have a witness who saw what happened and left a note on my car. I then took it to public safety where I was only able to file a police report because of the witness, not from our cameras," said junior Caroline Campo.

According to Fernandez, the only solution is to build a parking garage to give students more space to park, or add more cameras in the lots.

"My best advice on the issue is to those who hit the car. They need to take responsibility when they hit a car and leave it. It's a crime to hit a car and not report it," said Fernandez.

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Program teaches girls to stay ‘STRONG’

Kim Rooney  
Staff Reporter

While many students at Sacred Heart University are preparing for a career as a nurse, an English teacher, or a news anchor, it might be forgotten that it took a lot of teaching them how to communicate, set goals, appreciate others’ unique qualities, and explore and experience new opportunities.

We believe that teaching girls to be strong women means teaching them how to communicate, set goals, appreciate others’ unique qualities, and explore and experience new opportunities.

According to the Sacred Heart Website, the members of Project STRONG believe that teaching young girls to be strong women is essential.

Twelve fifth grade girls are currently in the program that all attend Johnson Elementary School in Bridgeport. The group meets every Friday from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

“We meet every week at Johnson Elementary School but we also do field trips to places like Sacred Heart, corn mazes, and rope courses,” said Pucino.

Students Amanda Johnson, Laura Murphy, and Lauren Coeso were creators of the program, which started in 2005.

The students involved in Project STRONG act as mentors to the young girls. Some of these mentors include junior Brianna Melli, Christine Loscri, sophomore Regina Giarraputo, and freshman Seanne Denny.

“I began my freshman year,” said Pucino. “We try to have one representative from each year so that they can continue growing within the program.”

According to Pucino, special activities are done with the fifth grade girls every Friday. Special guests have also come to speak with the girls about future careers.

“A nursing student came and spoke with the girls about being healthy and how to become a nurse,” said Pucino. “Members from SHU F.O.R.C.E. and the cheerleading team came and taught the girls routines and gave them the opportunity to make up their own routines.”

According to Pucino, another memorable activity was when the fifth grade girls from Johnson elementary school were brought to Sacred Heart to practice with the women’s basketball team. The girls ran drills with the team, saw their locker room, and learned about how the Sacred Heart women have made it to where they are today.

Each year twelve new fifth grade girls enter the program as the old twelve move on to the sixth grade. The girls from previous years are always welcome to come stop by on Fridays and say hello.

“Before winter break we always have a party for all the girls that have ever been a part of Project STRONG,” said Pucino. “It is a great opportunity for the current STRONG girls to meet girls from the grades above them and develop role models.”

The members of Project STRONG are volunteers that want to make a difference. Additionally, all special guests are volunteers as well. Some students will help while others have heard about the program and have a special talent that they wish to share.

“My favorite part of this program is watching the girls change and grow throughout the year and knowing that I am a part of that process,” said Pucino. “I see the girls come into the program that are overly shy or aggressive in their classmates but throughout the year the girls change. The shy girls begin to open up to their new friends and the aggressive girls learn how to better manage their emotions.”

Proposed legislature to bring tolls back to CT

Mike Peterson  
Staff Reporter

A bill that would permit tolls to return to some Connecticut highways has passed through committee hearings, clearing a major legislative hurdle.

According to the Hartford Courant, the General Assembly’s Transportation Committee approved a bill that would allow tolls on new state highways or highway extensions. The bill has moved to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

Legislators from southeastern Connecticut have promoted the bill as a way of paying for the completion of Route 11, a highway project that has been delayed for years.

Democratic Representative Ed Jutila of East Lyme emphasized that the bill would not be mandatory.

“If you’re concerned about your constituents who are currently commuting along our highways, nothing will change with this bill,” he said. “This does not mean tolls are automatically going to go up anywhere.”

But some Republican lawmakers fear that the bill could lead to tolls elsewhere in the state.

“I think what we’re doing is establishing some level of precedent,” said Representative David Scribner of Brookfield, the ranking House Republican on the Transportation Committee.

Freshman Gaela Blanc, a Connecticut resident, supports the legislation.

“I think the tolls are a good idea,” she said. “The money people will have to pay isn’t that much. People are going to use the highway even if the tolls are put in place.”

Senior Kasi Orlovski, also a Connecticut resident, believes there are other ways to pay for highway projects.

“There are other things that should be taxed before tolls are put in,” said Orlovski. “Some people are going to end up paying a lot if they’re traveling every day.”

The General Assembly closed tollbooths across the state after a series of fatal crashes in the late 1980s. But funding for projects such as Route 11 is now a significant concern.

According to the state’s Office of Policy and Management, the projected deficit for the 2010 fiscal year was $504 million.

Senior Olivier St. Onge, a Quebec native, is not accustomed to the idea of tolls.

“Where I’m from there are no tolls, so I’m not sure how I feel about it,” he said. “But it seems like a good idea; it might even reduce traffic on the highways.”

Junior Doug Cramer, who lives out-of-state, is not particularly concerned about the possibility of new tolls.

“It doesn’t sound like there are going to be new tolls on Interstate 95 or highways like that,” he said. “And even if there were, it wouldn’t affect me that much. I only go home to New Jersey every couple of months.”

Gov. Dannel P. Malloy, Connecticut’s new governor, has said he might favor using tolls to help raise money for the completion of Route 11.

For Blanc, using tolls makes more sense than a system of public bonds.

“Even if the state tries to raise money through bonds, they won’t make enough,” she said. “With the economy the way it is, people don’t have enough money to invest in things like that.”

St. Onge feels that travelers who take advantage of highways should fund them through tolls.

“The people are the ones who use the roads, so they should pay for them,” he said. “That’s the policy that makes the most sense to me.”

Clarification from 3/31 issue:

The photo associated with last week’s STD Testing article was a mock-up, and was not meant to depict actual results.
Sharing cars to save cash

Students carpool to campus to fight high gas prices

Tyler McKeon
Staff Reporter

With yet another raise in gas prices, students at Sacred Heart University are finding themselves having to make adjustments in their daily lives in effort to cope with the high costs of gas.

“The raise in gas prices is having a pretty big impact on me,” said senior Paul Perrelli. “Especially because I drive a V8. I also commute which makes it even worse.”

The peak in gas prices has resulted in some changes in students’ behaviors and efforts to conserve gas and money.

“I kind of just be careful where I go,” said Perrelli. “I try to not make unnecessary trips if I don’t have to, and once I’m at school I try not leave unless I have to.”

Students like Perrelli that commute from home don’t have much of a choice but to drive themselves. However, other students that live in dorms, apartments and houses nearby have the option of carpooling with roommates.

“My roommates and I never really use to carpool until this semester,” said senior Tiffany Cifone. “We all have different schedules so we would just drive ourselves but now we kind of try harder to ride with each other to school whenever we can because gas is so high.”

Cifone’s roommate, senior Sabrina DeRiso, said driving less is the only way to save money on evermore-expensive gas.

“There’s not much you really can do except try to drive less,” said DeRiso. “So since Tiffany and I have the same three days together we alternate driving every other day. There’s not much else you can really do except use less gas.”

But commuting to and from campus is only part of the problem. Students are also looking for ways to save money with alternate forms of transportation when they go out at night as well.

“We use to take our cars out to the bars when we would go out,” said DeRiso. “But lately we’ve been trying to take cabs wherever we go. We figure it’s still cheaper than the gas we burn getting there.”

While students living in the dorms without vehicles might not understand the consequences of rising gas prices, students living off-campus understand it all too well.

“My boyfriend lives in Stamford,” said DeRiso. “So the commute from Bridgeport to Stamford is really tough for both of us but over the past few months we’ve figured out ways to adjust to it.”

According to The Huffington Post, students like Perrelli that commute from Bridgeport to Stamford are finding themselves dealing with second semester slide, the other according to Grazidei lies with the work you have done earlier in the semester.

“When the weather gets warmer everyone just feels this urge to good outside and enjoy it, regardless if they have other responsibilities,” said Grazidei. “The key is all in your time management. If you stay on top of your work and don’t wait until the last minute to do stuff, you won’t be as lazy and your work will come out better.”

Not only does the changing weather seem to have an effect on students making it to class, it also seems to affect their concentration in general.

“T’ll be sitting in class, bored listening to my professor,” said freshman Jen Dellimónico. “I think people are sick of school and the bad weather out and they want to get out of here. This past winter was really bad so I think everyone is looking forward to warmer weather even more than usual.”

The Spectator/Bill Haug

Students are abandoning their cars and tagging along with friends as gas prices begin to rise above $4 per gallon.

SHEDDING LIGHT ON ‘BRIGHT’ BOYS AND GIRLS

Hannah Ackerman
Staff Reporter

Do you consider yourself a “bright” guy or girl? If so, do you forget about the hard work that might not come so naturally?

According to The Huffington Post, girls view intelligence as something you either have or do not have. Bright girls are quick to give up if they do not know the answers. However, boys view intelligence as something that can be learned. They stick with because they believe they will eventually get the answer.

Psychologist and author Carol Deck states that the “bright” fifth grade boys and girls.

“She found that bright girls, when given an academic or social task that was particularly foreign or complex, were quick to give up; the higher the girls’ IQ, the more likely they were to throw in the towel. In fact, the straight-A girls showed the most helpless responses,” said Dr. Heidi Grant Halvorson, quoted by the Huffington Post. “Bright boys, on the other hand, saw the difficult material as a challenge, and found it energizing. They were more likely to redouble their efforts rather than give up.”

Senior Amanda Favretto is a believer that gender isn’t always the key factor when it comes to brains. “I think that a lot of time women and men handle not knowing something in the same way,” said Favretto. “Both are determined to find the answer. I think that it depends on how motivated the individual is not necessarily on their sex.”

Do you see this kind of divide inside the classroom and in a working environment?

In general I think that men tend to get more frustrated if they do not know something and will pursue it until they do know it,” said junior Kelly Moulton. “Whereas girls can let it go for a little bit and then come back and pursue it again. Come on, have you ever seen how pissed a guy gets in a class when he answers a question and is wrong?”

The Huffington Post also discusses an important factor is the differences in how boys and girls are raised. “Men are often more persistent than women because of the way society has nurtured them to be. ‘Typically, girls are nurtured differently than boys since they’re born,’ she said. ‘If a young girl is struggling with something, others are always eager to help. ‘Honey, do you need help with that?’ Let me carry that for you.’ It makes sense that when faced with something foreign, young girls are more likely to give up faster when they’ve been raised that way.”

When Sacred Heart students were asked if they believed if most skills were innate or something you have to work for, the response was unanimous. It was not one over the other, but both.

“There has been much research on this question; currently it is seen as half and half,” said Moulton. “Yes, genetics do have an impact on learning ability and educational status. However, if you work at something you love and practice, practice, practice, anything is possible.”

The Huffington Post shares the same belief as Dr. Halvorson believes that you’re skills are dependant on your hard work.

“When it comes to mastering any skill, your experience, effort and persistence matter a lot,” she said. “So if you were a Bright Girl, it’s time to toss out your (mistakes) belief about how ability works, embrace the fact that you can always improve and reclaim the confidence to tackle any challenge that you lost so long ago.”

The independence that freshman discovered at college can make coping with the change all the more difficult. But some new students seem to have found a different way to deal with the new weather.

“The weather can be motivation or a distraction,” said Batt. “It kind of makes you realize summer and the time it made it you want to get all your work done so you can enjoy it. I try to make sure my homework is done before I go into social mode for the day but that doesn’t always work out.”

Herserpenas, however, seem to have figured out how to manage spring fever. Senior Paul Grazidei said his theory on how to deal with the temptations the springtime brings to campus.

“Once the weather gets warmer everyone just feels this urge to good outside and enjoy it, regardless if they have other responsibilities,” said Grazidei. “The key is all in your time management. If you stay on top of your work and don’t wait until the last minute to do stuff, you won’t be as lazy and your work will come out better.”
Rising ATM fees break the bank

Amanda Rivera
Staff Reporter

While sitting in his dorm room, freshman Chris Rivera was faced with a whole pile of papers. Among these was a smaller pile of papers about the size of his hand.

He was especially concerned about not losing this pile and made sure that it remained intact and organized. The smaller stack of papers was his ATM receipts.

For Rivera, keeping his receipts is a necessity.

"Now I hold onto my money and I keep a balance," said Rivera. "I hold all my receipts of what does go into the bank and what comes out. I work hard for my money like anybody else does. So I just don't want to see it wasted for no reason.

Students like Rivera are starting to take some precautionary action with their money especially with the possibility of ATM fees rising to $5.

In a recent article by CBS News, "Many banks are increasing fees and penalties to make more money in response to new federal regulation," said CBS News Business and Economics Correspondent Rebecca Jarvis.

With banks attempting to regulate their money, students following suit so that they don't fall behind.

"I'd think twice before putting my money in the bank," said freshman John Devlin. "I would make sure that a lot of my money I would keep with me so that I don't have to use the ATM as much."

Another way to avoid the rising costs of ATM fees is to stick to your own bank.

"They won't affect me because I'm going to be withdrawing only from Bank of America ATMs and this only affects my money I would keep with me so that my response to new federal regulation," said "Many banks are increasing fees and penalties to make more money in response to the recession because it makes on the economy."

"I'm helping the economy by getting more out now I'm going to be charged extra - not fair," said senior Sammie Latippe. "Now I have to switch banks."

Depending on your personal bank sometimes this is not an option, as an ATM from your bank is not always in close vicinity.

"I have a small bank in New Hampshire, which means if I want to take money out now I'm going to be charged extra - not fair," said senior Sammie Latippe. "Now I have to switch banks."

For some "super heroes" like sophomore Chris Mastrocola added extra - not fair," said senior Sammie Latippe. "Now I have to switch banks.

"I'm running around and saving the world and I run out of money while doing so. If I have Bank of America and I need to go to a Chase ATM they should give me some slack," said Mastrocola. "I'm helping the economy by getting money and spending it, so charging me whenever I want to use my money doesn't make me want to spend it."

While banks are getting the brunt of the blame there are other factors to the rising ATM fees.

"Some people are trying to capitalize on the recession because it makes them feel safe," said Rivera. "Not all ATM's are run by the bank, many are run by individuals and separate entities.

With individuals and separate entities running some of the ATM's the disparity between them and the banks can be seen in the fees.

"I feel like the banks are capitalizing on an extent, but not as much as a fee. I individuals and separate entities are, the banks are being modest," said Rivera. "For example at the Bank of America which I go to, there is a $2 withdrawal fee. I went to one ATM and the withdrawal fee was $8 from an uncommon name."

For junior Jacqui Delgado, the purpose of a bank is simple.

"My bank should keep my money safe and accessible to me only," said Delgado. "In that definition, there is no reason for them to have any more of my money than they already do."

The traditional view of dating says that the man has to be the one to ask the girl out, and make it first move. Honestly, I always thought that way. The question of whether or not it is okay for a girl to ask a guy out challenged my beliefs on the relationship. I'm not saying girls can't take one knee, and asking a man to marry her. I know it's tradition, and a cultural norm, it's time to make the relationship official, but a guy on a date. I still believe that when a girl is outgoing and asks a guy out. One of them is that judgmental people will call her negative things like "easy" or "desperate."

"When in reality, she's confident and doesn't care about her feelings any longer."

I believe it is extremely helpful when a girl is upfront, and communicates her interests clearly. I would much more prefer a girl who is upfront rather than a girl who plays mind games and drops subtle hints. This is a problem because as much as I hate to admit it, girls are terrible at reading girls.

Many lack the courage to be up-front because they feel self-conscious. For me, it doesn't make me want to spend it."

I have a small bank in New Hampshire, which means if I want to take money out now I'm going to be charged extra - not fair," said senior Sammie Latippe. "Now I have to switch banks."

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"[My bank should] keep my money safe and accessible to me only," said Delgado. "In that definition, there is no reason for them to have any more of my money than they already do."

The worst that can happen is he says "no," over a text, and you move on. You can't say you never tried.

Deep down, I believe of a better way to show confidence as a woman by having the courage to be the first to make a move.

In the world today, women fight for the right not to be seen as less than men. As long as this has been going on, some women still feel the need to do this. However, it seems we still expect the male species to make the biggest of gestures. But since we want so badly to be just as domineering as men, I think that is it absolutely acceptable for a girl to ask a guy out. I cannot think of a better way to show confidence as a woman by having the courage to be the first to make a move.

With the amount of time we spend on Facebook and texting, girls actually have it pretty easy if they want to ask a guy out. It doesn't even have to be in person or on the telephone anymore. Traditionally there are no excuses for girls to be shy anymore. It's simple to shoot a guy a text saying, "Hey want to get dinner tonight?" The worst that can happen is he says "no," over a text, and you move on. You can't say you never tried.

Deep down, I believe of a better way to show confidence as a woman by having the courage to be the first to make a move.
To say that I have been busy the past few weeks would be an understatement. From balancing schoolwork, the newspaper, and my senior project, I have become a human tornado. I just Tasmanian devil my way around leaving mainly my SHU card in my wake (which I’ve misplaced three times in the past two weeks).

Don’t let me wrong, I’m enjoying all of my classes, and my time spent in the Spectrum office always seems more like fun with friends than work, but every once in a while I find my self involved with something that consumes me, and this time around it’s the spring musical, Little Shop of Horrors.

I’ve recently learned that there is nothing that makes me happier than being on stage, and it doesn’t hurt that I’m surrounded by fabulously talented people who I’ve come to know and love through the Theatre Arts Program. Although most of us had already known each other from doing RENT last year, there were a bunch of new faces that I’m extremely glad I can now call my friends.

A well-known fact about myself is my fear of flying. As a broke college student and a soon to be unemployed college graduate I frequently look towards the vehicle and I would rather hit a guardrail on the side of the road, the stupidness carry around. I find myself forgetting that there is not actually a human tornado. I just Tasmanian devil my way around the newspaper, and my time spent in the Spectrum office always seems more like fun with friends than work, but every once in a while I find my self involved with something that consumes me, and this time around it’s the spring musical, Little Shop of Horrors.

The Spectrum is a popular spot for Sacred Heart students once the weather is warmer. I have to agree with Jeff, the ride has been nothing but exciting, we’ve seen everything fall into place and since the band has started playing it’s starting to feel like a real show.

From what I can tell all of my friends have been working very hard, I’m excited to see this piece of Broadway magic brought to the SHU community. I heard the band playing yesterday and they sound awesome, I said sophomore A.J. Cusello.

What really gives the play life are the costumes, the music, talent, and energy, but my favorite part of the show is the plant, Audrey II. I find myself forgetting that there is not actually a carnivorous; talking plant on stage, and that in reality it is freshman Nick Schulman bringing the brazen Audrey II to life. So stop by the Edgerton, pick up your tickets and enjoy the show.

Just remember... Don’t feed the plants!

An editor’s fear of flying brought to new heights

Lindsay Caiati
Chief Copy Editor

After weeks of rehearsals and late nights bonding with the cast, we’ve finally reached opening night, and I can’t believe it’s actually here. Everyone has been working so hard and put in so much time and energy, from helping build the set and stage managing, to costumes and make up, Sacred Heart students have been involved since day one.

“As part of the backstage crew I can tell you that the show is going to be amazing. All the actors and crew have been working extremely hard and it’s definitely paying off. It has been a blast working with everyone,” said sophomore Jeff Therkelsen. “From the principles to ensembles everyone is bringing their best to the table.”

I have to agree with Jeff, the ride has been nothing but exciting, we’ve seen everything fall into place and since the band has started playing it’s starting to feel like a real show.

From what I can tell all of my friends have been working very hard, I’m excited to see this piece of Broadway magic brought to the SHU community.

I heard the band playing yesterday and they sound awesome, said sophomore A.J. Cusello.

What really gives the play life is the music and will most likely never be solved, as facts surrounding the incident are minimal and the chances of finding the silent black boxes are slim to none.

The flight data recorder and cockpit recorder, known more commonly as the black boxes, only have batteries that send a signal out for 30 days.

Then you have the Southwest Airlines plane which had to make an emergency landing at an Air Force base in Nevada due to a three to four foot hole being ripped open and flight.

The plan was at 36,000 feet when the incident occurred and while oxygen mask dropped from the ceiling the pilot was forced to due a nosedive to 11,000 feet in order to depressurize the cabin.

The airline cancelled over 600 flights over this past weekend and found five other planes with cracks in them. However, the scary truth is that all these cracks were missed in their last inspections.

The FAA has recently announced plans to inspect 175 older 737s, yet this does not ease my nerves.

As a broke college student and a soon to be unemployed college graduate I frequently look towards the vehicle and I would rather hit a guardrail on the side of the road, the stupidness carry around. I find myself forgetting that there is not actually a human tornado. I just Tasmanian devil my way around the newspaper, and my time spent in the Spectrum office always seems more like fun with friends than work, but every once in a while I find my self involved with something that consumes me, and this time around it’s the spring musical, Little Shop of Horrors.

The Spectrum is a popular spot for Sacred Heart students once the weather is warmer.
A Roger Corman musical, "Little Shop of Horrors" is based off of the 1960's film of the same name, and has won best musical awards from the New York Drama Critics Circle, according to the Internet Movie Database. "Little Shop" revolves around an dow-n-on his back florist assistant named Seymour Knuft. But becomes famous when he discovers an exotic plant with an unusual hunger for human blood. TAP's very own Paul Cappadona will be playing Seymour while Lindsay McGrath takes on the role of love interest Audrey. "I expect the show to go extremely well because of all the long hours and effort everyone has been putting into it," said sophomore performer Paul Cappadona.

"Acting is something I have loved every since I was little. I'm not nervous for the performance because I zone out on stage, it's as if it is just me and the people up with me, so I'm feeling very comfortable with it," he said.

Last April, TAP put on it's first main stage performance of the musical "Rent." Hundreds of people filled the Edgerton and the show proved to be successful, winning the "Event of the Year" award during the Campus Life Leadership Awards.

"After last year's show, great results are expected," said Goehring. "It should go just as well. Everyone knew about 'Rent.' 'Little Shop of Horrors' was made much earlier. But this is musical theater, every show is different." The stretch of shows will end with a performance by Debbie Reynolds, a star of film, stage and television. She will take the stage on Sunday, April 10 at 7 p.m. after the last performance of "Little Shop."

"The idea of a plant being that large and that animated is intriguing and really interesting to watch," said freshman Christina Bauch. "I have seen the play a few times before, and each time I watch it I find myself movin' and groovin' to the fun music and mesmerized by the giant plant creature that says 'Feed me!'" TAP will kick off it's first performance of "Little Shop of Horrors" tonight, Thursday, April 7 at 8 p.m. Following shows will be held on Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9 at 8 p.m. with the final show taking place on Sunday, April 10 at 3 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in person, over the phone, or online at EdgertonCenter.org. Tickets for the general public are priced at $22, senior citizens and Sacred Heart University faculty and staff are $15 and students with Sacred Heart ID are $10.

SAYING FAREWELL TO SCREEN LEGEND ELIZABETH TAYLOR

Lisa Manente
Staff Reporter

There are Hollywood stars and startles. Then there are Tinseltown legends. On March 23, the city of dreams lost one of its most iconic actresses. Academy Award winning legend, Elizabeth Taylor died March 23 at the age of 79, as a result of congestive heart failure, according to the Washington Post.

After the official announcement of her death, via numerous media outlets, fellow celebrities, as well as A-List fans, came out in droves to offer the Taylor family their condolences in remembering the once "Cleopatra" star.

"We have just lost a Hollywood giant. More importantly, we have lost an incredible human being," said musician Elton John in a statement to CBS news.

"She was always, always there for me. I'll miss her for the rest of my life, but I was so lucky to have known her," said friend Liza Minnelli to E! Online.

Even though they may not have grown up during the peak of Taylor's lengthy career, members of young Hollywood took the time out in remembering the real-life legend of the silver screen.

"Glee" starlet Lea Michele even wrote on her Twitter page, "so sad to hear about Elizabeth Taylor. It's the end of an era for sure."

Although Hollywood is still mourning, the sudden loss of Taylor has affected the Sacred Heart community as well.

"I know who Elizabeth Taylor is. Being a legend like her means being known across generations," said sophomore performer Paul Cappadona.

Others are also saddened by Taylor's death.

"Elizabeth Taylor had remarkable longevity as a movie star. I think that her image endured because it was so multifaceted and contradictory," said media studies professor Sara Ross. "She bridged the golden age of the Hollywood studio system and the next generation of method actors."

Taylor began her acting career at the age of 12, after appearing in the film "National Velvet" in 1944. Soon after, the former child star became a founding member of the American Academy Award for her roles in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf," and "Butterfield 8," according to the Internet Movie Database or IMDB.com. However, Taylor made her career-defining role in the 1963 flick "Cleopatra," as the title character. People.com reported that Taylor was the first actor in Hollywood history to garner a salary of over one million.

With her daring and controversial movie roles, such as a call girl and a brazen wife, Taylor's on-screen reputation, as well as her personal life, ultimately made her into a household name.

Throughout the decades, Taylor became a media fixture, whether stemming from her sex appeal, eight marriages, over 70 hospitalizations, or her friendships with fellow controversial names such as Liza Minnelli and the late Michael Jackson.

"She was adulated for her beauty and scorned for her weight gain. She seemed hedonistic, with her love of jewels and her many marriages, but she proved to be an unwavering philanthropist," said Ross. "She was unreachably glamorous and yet people felt that they knew her intimately."

After big-screen career began to cease, she then began to help others, thanks in part to her continuous star power.

"To me, a legend is someone who gives back, and tries to make a difference," said freshman Ashley John.

According to People Magazine, Taylor's outstanding support of AIDS activism and involvement in numerous charities is what led to her receiving the Presidential Cit-
Although many know Daniel Radcliffe from the big screen as Harry Potter, he has recently served as an important role model to the gay community. Due to his involvement in a PSA encouraging gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and questioning teens to seek help and prevent suicide, Radcliffe is set to receive the Trevor Project’s Hero Award.

“I think that out of everything that I’ve done so far in my career, I think this is absolutely one of the most important, if not the most important, thing that I’m associated with,” said Radcliffe to the Associated Press. He has always been supportive of equal rights for all, according to an interview with MTV and now will be rewarded for his efforts.

According to the Associated Press, the Hero award will be presented to Radcliffe at a ceremony in New York City to “recognize a person who serves as an inspiration to sexual minority youths.”

Past recipients include Vanessa Williams, “Milk” screenwriter Dustin Lance Black, and actor Nathan Lane for their efforts in various fields supporting human equality.

“Daniel Radcliffe has a large fan base stemming from the Harry Potter movies,” said junior Jen Hlavac. “Many of these include teens and young adults who will admire him and hopefully follow in his footsteps.”

Students said they were supportive of Radcliffe’s achievements and also said they think he will serve as a great role model to others.

“I think Daniel Radcliffe is a good role model for the gay community, and I know he’s gotten involved in the past with GLBTQ issues,” said Joey Prutt, president of Sacred Heart’s Gay Straight Alliance. “I think it’s always a good thing when well known actors are associated with the support of the GLBTQ community.”

Others believe this achievement has strides to promote not only the Trevor Project, but also awareness about the prevalence of suicide within the gay community.

Senior Michelle Monaghan, Cathy Guten and Sammie Hendricks are among many other stars that have made similar videos to Radcliffe’s.

Although some students are not familiar with the Trevor Project they still have respect for what it does. “I don’t know much about the Trevor Project, but I definitely support that they are advocating for the LGBT youths,” said sophomore Matta Tucker. “Since he has always been supportive of equal rights for all, I definitely support that he is doing these things.”

Students said they were supportive of Radcliffe’s film choices and also said they think he will serve as a great role model to others.

“The Trevor Project is doing a great job with the anti-suicide PSA’s that the organization put out last year in support of the community. There’s a lot of a great that they’re able to help the people in need.”

Other students also feel similarly to Tucker. “Although I’m not completely familiar with the Trevor Project, I do support the anti-suicide PSA’s that the organization put out last year in support of the gay community,” said junior Kelly Moulton. “I wasn’t aware that Radcliffe had done one of them, but I think it’s great that since he did, he’ll be rewarded for that.”

The Trevor Project’s “It Gets Better” project was launched last year in reaction to the many suicides that happened. According to the web site, the campaign now has over 250,000 followers.

The Trevor Project provides a free, confidential hotline for crisis support.

According to Radcliffe’s public service announcement, “If you’re feeling helpless or hopeless, there’s always a safe place to turn... Be proud of who you are.”

Fans ‘Hungry’ with excitement

Bill Haug
Staff Reporter

From the “Harry Potter” franchise, to the “Twilight” Saga, it seems that the Tinseltown trend of best sellers to the big screen is not going away anytime soon as another notable novel series is set to hit multiplexes in the spring of next year.

Best-selling author Suzanne Collins will officially see her sci-fi adventure series “The Hunger Games” make its silver screen debut in 2012. The highly anticipated film is already garnering attention from the media, and Sacred Heart University as well.

“I absolutely loved the book. I’m in the process of reading the second one. When I’ve recommended it to friends, they’ll ask what it’s about,” said graduate student Kate Schlosser. “It’s definitely a book that you have to read for yourself, to see how good it truly is.”

With the bombing of the train was the only beginning of a larger attack for the city of Chicago. His mission is to find the bomb and the terrorist who has threatened the attack in the heart of the city.

Unlike other movies that have used repetition, Source Code is a smart and satisfying action packed sci-fi thriller that is well worth the today’s steep movie ticket price.

“Source Code, an action packed thriller delivers endless excitement and suspense all with a punch of sci-fi. While it may not be everyone’s cup of tea, for those of you looking for an exciting science fiction film I would recommend that you check it out.”

The film, directed by Duncan Jones (the son of famous rock star David Bowie) stars Jake Gyllenhaal in the lead role as United States soldier Colter Stevens with Vera Farmiga and Jeffery Wright supporting.

After paying my 11 dollars and sitting through a few terrible coming attractions (with the exception of The Hangover Part III) the film commenced. Stevens wakes up again, and in a dimly lit capsule isolated and alone. The only things visible are scraps of metal, wires, and a fuzzy television screen. The voice of fellow soldier Goodwin (Vera Farmiga) is heard and we see her face appear on the TV screen. Stevens discovers that a terrorist bomb destroyed the commuter train he was on earlier that day.

We learn that Stevens has been participating in an experimental Army intelligence program for the past two months that allows him to continually relive the last eight minutes of a recently deceased person, in this case the schoolteacher, Sean.

The bombing of the train was the only beginning of a larger attack for the city of Chicago. His mission is to find the bomb and the terrorist who has threatened the attack in the heart of the city.

Unlike other movies that have used repetition, Source Code never goes sour our feels overdone. The film is a well-written roller coaster ride spanning 93 minutes, with superb acting provided by Gyllenhaal.

Overall Source Code is a smart and satisfying action packed sci-fi thriller that is well worth the today’s steep movie ticket price.
Dear Pioneers,

This semester is certainly flying by, it seems like just yesterday classes began. With the weeks passing so quickly I’d like to take a moment to provide some updates on Student Government happenings.

We are excited about the success of a new initiative that Student Senate took on this semester regarding student outreach called the focus initiative. A few weeks ago Student Government representatives met with the New York Times to learn about their campus newspaper distribution program. Some of you recall when we had free copies of the NYT scattered around campus a few years back.

SG is pursuing reinstating this program with the assistance of administration so that we can continually be connected with current global issues. Keep your fingers crossed!

Elections take place today, April 7 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., either online or in Hawley Lounge. Please make sure that you take time to VOTE! In closing, I would like to thank all of the students for allowing me to serve as your Student Body President for the past two years.

I truly feel blessed to have had the opportunity to serve as your voice and representative to our staff and administration. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and concerns with me, please continue to do so as new leaders rise to positions in the coming months so that Student Government can continue to effectively serve every student.

As always please e-mail me with any thoughts, comments or concerns that you find pertinent to share!

Best,
Kelly Leather
Student Body President

A letter from SG President
Looking toward end of semester, bidding adieu to SHU

This year’s Spring Fest is scheduled for Saturday, April 30 at 12 p.m.

Although our weekly outreach reports have continually been available, and the band was pretty great,” said Kelly.

This gives alumni the opportunity to attend seven pub nights. I’ve enjoyed them throughout the year and hopefully there will be a good crowd for the last one,” said senior Cam Sheary.

The event will include a live band, food, and giveaways.

The alumni relations association will also be there to introduce new ways to stay connected with the Sacred Heart community.

“We have many opportunities for them to get involved and being an alumni is certainly something to be proud of,” said Rohman.

The alumni association has made significant efforts to connect with the senior class through social networking, which has become a major mode of communication. The night will be bittersweet for many members of the graduating class. "I have had a lot of fun here at SHU and I’m going to miss it so much,” said senior Kaitlyn Swanson.

"This pub night seems like fun and now that my time is almost up I am really appreciating any opportunity to spend time with my class.”

Others state it should serve as a reminder that Sacred Heart will always be a part of the students’ lives.

“The event serves as a ‘boo-rah’ for the last senior pub night but it also allows Alumni Relations to show the senior class that this doesn’t mean that their days at SHU are over,” said Rohman.

“It’s a great way to celebrate your last months at Sacred Heart with your friends,” she said.

"Alumni Relations just wants you to know that it doesn’t have to stop after you graduate.”

Upcoming SG Events

April 13: Last senior pub night of the year! “Senior Class Zero Year Reunion” in Outpost Pub
April 15-17: Greek Weekend
April 28: Campus Life Leader ship Awards in Edgerton
April 29: Mr. SHU in Edgerton
April 30: Spring Fest
May 1: Trip to Six Flags
May 11-14: Senior week!

Check out our website for information on Hydration Stations and “Dancing with Heart”!

PIONEER PRIDE LIVES ON PAST GRADUATION

Alison Bennett
Staff Reporter

For some, a class reunion before you graduate may seem premature. However the alumni relations association and senior class at Sacred Heart University think it’s the perfect way to mark the end of a great college experience.

On April 13 the “Senior Class Zero Year Reunion” will be held in the Outpost Pub.

“The event is a celebration of the senior class and it also welcomes the class of 2011 to the Sacred Heart University Alumni Association,” said Emily Rohman, the alumni relations coordinator.

The university holds class reunions every five years until a class reaches the 35 years mark. This gives alumni the opportunity to attend seven class reunions and reconnect with old friends.

“Essentially, this is the senior class’ first class reunion with the next coming in 2016,” said Rohman.

The event is expected to become an annual occurrence that future classes of the university can take advantage of.

“I am definitely looking forward to the last senior pub night but it also allows Alumni Relations to show the senior class that this doesn’t mean that their days at SHU are over,” said Rohman.

It's a great way to celebrate your last months at Sacred Heart with your friends,” she said.

"Alumni Relations just wants you to know that it doesn’t have to stop after you graduate.”

Students anticipate end-of-year ‘Spring Fest’-ivities

Shawnee Zyskowski
Staff Reporter

Spring has sprung on campus and students are enjoying the warmer weather as groups move their events outdoors.

With the stress of finals approaching, students look to outdoor events as a way to relieve the tension and enjoy themselves.

These events range in a variety of causes and include charitable works like the AIDS and MS walks, informative occurrences like the Car Crush and Cherry Blossom Festival, and the biggest hit – Spring Fest.

“It was easily one of the nicest parts of the year, especially with the stress of finals approaching,” said sophomore Trevor Kelly, who was among those who attended last year’s Spring Fest.

Spring Fest is hosted by the student events team, and was implemented as an annual tradition at Sacred Heart last year.

The festival takes place on the Chartwell’s Patio. Here, students living in Merton and Seton Hall as well those in the main academic building can easily notice the activities taking place.

Weather permitting, the schedule of events typically includes music, activities, and free food.

“The weather was brilliant, the food was beyond readily available, and the band was pretty great,” said Kelly.

This year’s Spring Fest is scheduled for Saturday, April 30 at 12 p.m.

Students hang out on the patio during last year’s Spring Fest.
TAKING A SLICE OUT OF NEW LOCAL PIZZERIA
Spectrum reviews Black Rock’s latest Italian hotspot Tomato and Basil

Merith McLoone
Staff Reporter

Looking for a small, comfortable place to eat? Tomato and Basil restaurant on Black Rock Turnpike in Fairfield might be the perfect option. The small Italian restaurant has a great, casual atmosphere and is the perfect place for a quick bite to eat.

Our waiter came immediately welcomed by the staff and seated. Our waiter came right over to provide recommendations from the menu and attempted to gain a sense of what we were in the mood to eat.

The menu certainly has a lot to offer, from sandwich-es and salads to large pizza pies and entrees. The soup and salad section of the menu provides the option of a small or large portion. In the pizza section, you can get a personal, medium, or large pie. After deciding, we didn’t have to wait long for our food to come out.

"I had the four meats pizza and it was amazing," said senior Michael Powers. "It was brick oven pizza with thin crust and had a delicious selection of meats, cheese and sauce.

Two people can split many of the dishes that are on the menu. Although each dish comes in large portions, the small plate options are still enough for dinner. If you enjoy sea food, their fried calamari is a great choice for an appetizer and sized perfectly for two people.

"Tomato and Basil has a great variety to choose from they literally every kind of Italian food you could think of," said junior Kate Garabedian. "I had their eggplant rel­ lating and [it was] so delicious, because it portion was really big and it was in the small plate section of the menu."

The menu prices are reasonable for a college student ranging from a small soup at $4.50 to an entree at $19.95. The small plates begin at around $8.95 and go up to $14.95.

The pizza section of the menu allows you to create your own pizza with different toppings at varied prices. It also offers a selection of pizzas they have created for you all of which are about $10 for a personal pie.

"I think that the prices are reasonable," said senior Sean Brown. "When I first looked at the menu I thought it was a really expensive place but when I got my food I realized the prices were perfect because of the large portions.

"You get what you pay for," he said.

Tomato and Basil has different food specials everyday. For those 21 and over, there are also daily wine specials.

Bottles of wine that are $40 or more are offered at 40% on Mon. through Wed. If you’re not looking to purchase a bottle, wine by the glass costs $6 to $9.

"When we went we got the bottle of wine special and it saved us $20 and two of us split the medium sized pizza," said Powers.

They also have a wide selection of beers on tap including, Ithaca Flower Power IPA, La Chouffe, Blue Point Toasted Lager, Oskar Blues Mama’s Little Yellow Pils and BBC (Berkshire Brewing Company) Steel Rail Extra Pale Ale. They range from $5 to $7.

"If you’re not looking to purchase a bottle, wine by the glass costs $6 to $9. When we went we got the bottle of wine special and it saved us $20 and two of us split the medium sized pizza," said Powers.

A tip – get there around 5:30 p.m. because the restaurant does get crowded as the night goes on.

Ralph Nader proposes to cut collegiate athletic scholarships

Samantha DeFalco
Staff Reporter

"When people hear the term student-athlete they think that this group of individuals are privileged and that things are handed to them," said Kimberly Banner, head coach of the women’s soccer team at Sacred Heart University. "That perception is so wrong.

Ralph Nader, a consumer advocate and four-time candidate for President of the United States, is trying to end athletic scholarships in an attempt to de-professionalize and revive the integrity of college sports.

While many may think that the best high school athletes will automatically get a college scholarship, there are many components that go into such a decision.

"Getting a scholarship is a lot of work and it takes time and true talent to get one," said freshman Erin McAndrews of the softball team. "You must go to showcases find coaches, and then when you get to the university have to keep that expectation.

According to the Associated Press, Nader’s supporters propose that athletic scholarships be replaced with need-based financial aid.

Though there are many who support what Nader is attempting, some disagree. The article states that NCAA spokes­ man Bob Williams, argues that categorizing college athletes as professionals defies logic.

"Student-athletes have so much more on their plate than any other student," said Banner.

For many students, an athletic scholarship is a way for them to afford the education they wish to obtain.

"I am on a combined scholarship for athletics and academics," said junior Samantha Kee, of the women’s soccer team. "While my academic scholarship was enough to allow me to come to Sacred Heart University for my first semester, earning an athletic scholarship allowed me to stay."

Student-athletes devote a large portion of their college careers to the requirements set by their respective sport.

"On top of the workload that the average student puts in student-athletes also have to put in scheduled study hours, community hours, actual games on weekends where your normal student does not have that time taken away from them," said Banner.

In an article entitled, "Ralph Nader’s College Scholarship Proposal and Other Political Involvements in Sports" it was mentioned that many parents go through years of youth sports in hopes that their children will get an academic scholarship.

But even after years of practice, not every student who is exceptionally good at a sport can afford to go to college and play on a team.

"Now to take scholarship money away from an individual who has worked so hard to become good, that is criminal," said Banner.

Many don’t play a sport simply for the money, but for the love of the game.

This experience allows them to bond with teammates and learn new things about themselves.

"Sports/athletics have been around forever," said Banner. "It is a way of teaching discipline and responsibility to the young.

"It helps develop individuals mentally and physically," she said.

Getting rid of athletic scholarships would create an obstacle for some.

"It would be unfair to end athletic scholarships, preventing individuals who excel in athletics from seizing academic opportunities that may otherwise have been unavailable to them," said Kee.

For some, playing a sport is their passion and the most important thing in their life.

"Individuals that may not have much can always have a sport or activity to play," said Banner. "It is a form of release to some."

"To take opportunities away from people to grow and to better themselves is wrong," she said.

Spectrum reviews Black Rock’s latest Italian hotspot Tomato and Basil

The Spectrum - Karen Kennedy

Tomato & Basil, located at 1876 Black Rock Turnpike. The menu consists of more than just pizza. Aside from the usual pizza pie, there's a plethora of soups, sandwiches, and hot appetizers.
Morgan Mireski  
Staff Reporter

The men’s lacrosse team had their first conference game of the season Saturday night on Campus Field against the Wagner Seahawks. The Pioneers defeated the Seahawks 18-4.

“Opening up with a win felt great,” said junior Tom Whitfield. This game was not only head coach Tom Mariano’s 100th win and 86th as a Pioneer, it was the first time they have competed in the Northeast Conference. Until this year, the Pioneers competed as a Division 1 independent.

“To be a part of the Northeast Conference is an awesome thing,” said junior Rock Tate. “But being the first team to win the conference is going to be even better.”

Freshman Tom Sardelli opened the first quarter for the Pioneers with a goal from 15 yards out. At the end of the first quarter Sacred Heart led the Seahawks 2-0, with a last second goal from sophomore Pierce Bradley.

“Our offense looked well moving the ball and making plays and the defense did a great job shutting down Wagner’s offense,” said Whitfield.

Senior captain Zach Frank had nine saves. 

At the start of the second quarter, junior Matt Ferrin scored in the first minute of play with a man-up advantage. Sacred Heart increased the lead to 5-0, with two more goals by fresh-

defense as well shutting down Wagner's star players.

Sophomore Steven Kontos won 16 face-offs in 21 tries for the Pioneers, and led the team with eight ground balls, and contributed a goal.

“It all starts with Steve, and him winning 16/21 face-offs obviously means we have 16 more chances then the other team to score,” said Tate. “It was a huge key to our success.”

The Pioneers won by a convincing 14-goal margin. “We are a young team this year looking to make a statement in this conference, being that it is our first year,” said Whitfield.

Although this was a huge win, the Pioneers are focusing on their next big opponent, Mount Saint Mary’s. “At this point in the season, we like to think the conference is up for grabs,” said Whitfield. “Mount St. Mary’s is a team we have a history against, both as a non-conference opponent and a former conference rival.”

The Pioneers have been preparing all week for this game, and coming off a big win is always a positive. “They’ve beaten us three times by a goal, including last year, so this one is really personal for us,” said Whitfield.

The Pioneers take on Mount Saint Mary this Saturday on Campus Field at 1 pm.

“From here on out, it’s up to us to continue to work hard in practice and prepare for the upcoming games to give us a better chance to win out,” said Whitfield.

SPORTS

PIONEERS PREVAIL

Morgan Mireski  
Staff Reporter

Defeat Wagner in first-ever NEC game

The Sacred Heart University women’s lacrosse team scored their first goal with 3:05 left in the first half against Quinipiac, only to be trailing 9-1. It was the rough start that ultimately led to the 14-5 defeat.

“We started the game and then all of the sudden they kept building a lead on us. They got on top so quickly by the time it was half they were up 9-1,” said Kaetin Rocher, the junior attack.

One of the games critical stats was the Pioneer’s 21 turnovers, while the Bobcats only recorded 16.

“The turnovers really hurt us. They had a great defensive game plan and our offense could not handle it,” said Mary LaGrassa, a junior defender.

It was just not a good day for the Pioneers as they found themselves down by eight at the half. “During halftime our coach got us together, but our moral was just down. I think we were just having an off day,” said Kate Kmiotek, a junior midfielder.

Kmiotek two goals came in the second half, but the game was well in hand for the Bobcats. Quinipiac came out to play in the second half scoring two quick goals and added to their lead, increasing it to 11-1.

“They have a better team that played better than us today just got beat off the ball and they were just a little bigger, faster and stronger than us,” said Rochler.

The scoring went back and forth for the remainder of the second half, but the Pioneers could not make up the deficit, falling by a final score of 14-5.

The Bobcats are 5-3 overall, but 4-0 in the NEC. Moving up the conference’s top spot. The Pioneers fell to 2-8 overall, with an NEC record of 1-2.

“We don’t have too many seniors on this team, and it sort of shows with the lack of leadership. The rest of the season is going to be a growing experience for us,” said LaGrassa.

The Pioneers only have three seniors on their roster out of 30 players. One of the Pioneer’s bright spots the past few weeks has been the play from NEC Freshman of the week Kelsey Russo.

“Russo is a great player, but we often forget that she is only a freshman and she makes some mistakes sometimes. She has gotten better with every game that she has played,” said Kmiotek.

Other than youth, one of the Pioneers largest weaknesses is their defense. The Pioneers have given up double digit goals in every single game this season but one, a total of 153 goals in just 10 games.

“It is definitely disappointing because our offense hasn’t been bad, we just can’t stop any one,” said LaGrassa.

The Pioneers will hit the road with games at Bryant, tomorrow (April 8) and Central Connecticut State, on April 10, before returning home to play Long Island on April 15. “We are just going to have to start playing better, which we are capable of doing. There are still a lot of matches left in the season and we just need to put in the work,” said Rochler.

Stats courtesy of Sacred Heart Athletic Department.
**BOWLING FINISHES NINTH IN FINAL NATIONAL RANKINGS**

Kelly Welsh  
Staff Reporter

Dedication, perseverance and motivation are some of the many qualities members of the women's Sacred Heart University bowling team possess.

While their season is over, the team is carefully examining both their improvement and mistakes they made, in all efforts to compete in the national's competition next year.

“Our official ranking in the nation is currently ninth place, just shy of making it to nationals,” said junior Savannah Zientara.

The Pioneers' record for this was extremely impressive with 75 wins.

The final matches we competed in were very important when determining national selections. We had some positive matches, and some matches that did hurt us, but, we learned from them,” said freshman Nicole Trudell.

In bowling, technique is everything. Learning from past mistakes is what ultimately makes the women improve and advance as a team.

“As a team, we could have focused more at the shot in front of us, instead of trying to win a match in one frame,” said Trudell.

Bowling matches are a team effort and each player’s performance each frame has a grave affect on a final score.

“As a team, we need to learn to leave composed in preparation for the real thing.

“Obviously our goal this year is to win conferences,” said Strom. “We feel like if we play to our full potential, it’s not a question of are we going to win, it’s a question of by how much are we going to win by. Losing last season by a single stroke was definitely our main motivation this season.”

Since the Pioneers lost the conference title by one stroke last year, they know that every shot is extremely important.

“Our team believes that great moments are born from great opportunities and we like to step on our opponents throats, so to speak,” said Cavasino.

When the Pioneers are not practicing or playing in tournaments, they are focusing on their schoolwork.

“I enjoy being on the golf team because it helps me with managing my school work,” said Tonno. “Practice keeps me busy and I know that I only have a certain amount of free time during the day aside from class and practice to get my school work done. I use my free time more efficiently now.”

But, it is not all business with these athletes as they can find some free time to kick back and let loose from their demanding schedules.

“Off the course we like to have a good time like anybody else,” said Cavasino.

The Pioneer men will be in action next April 10 and 11 at the New England Championship. While the women will compete May 11 and 12 at the Hartford Invitational.

**GAME OF THE WEEK**

**Weekend of April 8**  
**Baseball**  
Sacred Heart Pioneers at  
UNLV Rebels  
Las Vegas, Nevada

**SPORTS 13**

**DAY IN THE LIFE: PIONEER GOLF**

Eddie Ciacoppo  
Staff Reporter

For Division I athletes, playing college sports and attending classes can become a juggling act when considering time management, however the men and women's golf teams handle this task with ease.

Unlike some of the other collegiate sports offered at universities across the nation, athletes who play golf get the opportunity to participate in multiple seasons during the course of the year.

"Golf is a pretty unique college sport, where we basically have two seasons," said senior golfer Andrew Strom. “Our main season is the spring, where we tune up for conferences. The first season runs from the start of September until mid-late October. Then we start again up in March and go into early May, possibly even later in May if we win conferences.”

During each season, the members of both the men and women's teams configure their course schedules corresponding to certain practices times, availability of the course, and other activities they perform outside of a team.

"Basically I make my class schedule around our practice schedule," said senior Andrew Cavasino. "We all try to keep our afternoons open because it is an ideal time to golf.”

"The golf team typically practices everyday,” said senior Meghan Tonno. “During our non-competitive season we either practice at our indoor facility or we do cardio, lifting, and stretching work-outs.”

With the spring soon approaching and the weather improving from the recently snow filled winter, Pioneer golfers can finally get outside and working on their craft.

"Right now we practice three days a week [Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday] at Great River Golf Club in Milford, and the other four at the Wheel next door to campus," said Strom.

The team practices both on the range, and the course.

"We are usually out there for about two hours typically hitting balls at the range and then we go out and play 9 holes," said Tonno.

Practicing everyday may seem overwhelming for some, however the preparation is needed for each and every round.

"Each tournament, we have five players that compete, with the top four scores counting towards a team score," said Strom. "We qualify for tournaments at Great River, anywhere from 36 hole to 72 hole qualifiers. These qualifiers are one of the reasons that our team has won conferences two out of the last three years. On days we don’t qualify, we either get some work in on the driving range, or more importantly, work on our short games.”

The men’s team consists of 11 golfers who compete against one another to participate in the various tournaments they qualify throughout the season.

"Our depth showed at our first tournament of the spring, where we had six guys in the top 20, as well as Dave Renksi who won the individual title,” said Strom.

Senior Andrew Strom practices his swing on a recent afternoon.

Renksi, is the teams number one player and leads by example.

He will be graduating in May and his abilities and triumphs on the course speak louder than any words could.

"Dave not only has a superior golf game, but his mental game, which is huge for golf, is what separates him come time for a tournament,” said Strom. "Dave pushes everyone on the team to step up their games, and to continue to work hard each day.”

With Renksi leading the way, the golf team strives to succeed and win each tournament by practicing hard and remaining focused.

The Spectrum/Eddie Cacioppo

**Tournament Info:**  
Senior golfer Andrew Cavasino
Men's fencing ranks 13th in nation

Williams, Dion earn All-American honors

Blake Campbell
Staff Reporter

The competition was fierce early on, but the Pioneers were up for the challenge.
Down 8-1 in a competition in which 14 secures the win, the Sacred Heart fencing team found its rhythm as they clawed their way back and defeated their rival Brown University at MIT.

This was the beginning of a monumental season in which the Sacred Heart fencing team ranked 13th nationally in NCAA competition, while producing their first ever All-American and most important making a name for an often-overlooked program.

"That kind of set the pace for us throughout the season," said Justin Dion, a junior who placed 11th at the NCAA Championship tournament as he was named an All-American Honor mention.

After falling behind early at the MIT competition, Sacred Heart shocked their rivals when they were able to overcome them. With Brown needing only six more wins out of 18 hours, the Pioneers denied them as they made a statement in an amazing comeback.

"In the last round we had to take five out of six to win. We took care of business and we just said 'No. We're not going to lose,'" said Dr. Thomas Vrabel, head coach of the Sacred Heart fencing team.

It wasn't the first time the Pioneers had a taste of success. But as they garnered more success, they also garner more recognition.

"Two years ago, we won the NEC and went undefeated in the conference. We beat some teams that were traditionally up there and we surprised some people. This year everybody was running for us. They wanted to take it back," said Vrabel.

The Pioneers had no intent of giving up ground to the competition. With the bulldoze on their chest, the Pioneers repeated their success in producing their second consecutive undefeated Northeast Fencing Conference season en route to a 15-9 record.

They also won their second consecutive NEC championship. The foil squad consisting of Stuart Holmes, Victor Nieto and Jim Roberts won their second consecutive Silvio Vitale Cup at the NEIFC Tournament, a trophy given to the best squad at the tournament.

"We've been building over the last couple of years. This year just happened to be our breakout season," said Marty Williams, a junior fencer who won second team all-American honors.

The Pioneers produced three first-team all league fencers in Holmes, Williams, and Dion. They also sent two fencers to the NCAA Championship for the second consecutive year.

"Justin came in good regionally in Massachusetts but he really didn't have a national rep. He rapidly established himself. Marty was junior national champion before he came here so he had a really good reputation. Now he is really up where he should be," said Vrabel.

The two came together to represent Sacred Heart in the NCAA championships in which they would stand off against some of the top fencers in the nation.

"We both made it to NCAA's last year but we didn't do as well as we wanted to. Going there this year, we had a different outlook on it. We knew what we were getting ourselves into," said Williams.

In the NCAA competition, there are only 24 spots per event for the whole country. Up to 12 individuals can be sent per school to represent their team. Sacred Heart only sent two but was able to place 13th overall in the men's competition, one place up from 14th the year before.

"We're taking spots from schools that have big reputations in the area. The spots that they would normally have, Sacred Heart and Vassar are getting. We're two teams on the rise," said Vrabel.

Williams placed fifth out of 24 competitors in Saber en route to winning Second Team All American honors.

"It's definitely a big accomplishment, but I feel like it's what I came here to do. I expect to do even better next year," said Williams.

Dion placed 11th in Epee en route to winning Honorable Mention All American.

Overall, Sacred Heart ranked 16th in the NCAA Championship, two places up from 18th the previous year. The Pioneers hope to keep improving over years to come.

"We're starting to get the athletes so we can really be good all the time. If you can qualify five or six people, then you can get to the top ten. And that's where we want to go. And we've got people that are real focused," said Vrabel.

The Pioneers feel they are in contention for a top ten spot with a strong freshman recruiting class for next year.

"We have to work with the freshmen, exploit what they're good at, and build on things that they're not so great at," said Dion.

The team has high expectations for the next year as they continue to try to make a name for sacred heart.

"The best thing I can do for these guys is to get them to believe that they can achieve at that level. Five or six years ago, we were overlooked. Now, people aren't overlooking us," said Vrabel. "We come into the competition and we're not arrogant, but we've got a little swagger. Yeah, you've got to worry about Sacred Heart."

UConn wins third National Championship

...CONTINUED from page 1.

none of Butler's points came from inside the paint.

The Huskies had their share of problems as well, finding themselves in foul trouble early on, and only seven first half points from their lead­er Walker. But they controlled the inside, scoring 14 of their 19 from inside the paint.

"I was surprised none of the big names from either side came to play in the first half," said Sacred Heart University junior Brian Giddinge.

"Butler didn't really capitalize, other than shutting Walker down."

Butler 28-10 hit a small stride towards the end of the half, netting five three-point field goals. A pivotal play came as Bulldog guard Shelvin Mack connected from beyond the arc, tying the score at 19. It was yet another three from Mack with one second left in the first half that gave Butler a 22-19 advantage going into the locker room.

The halftime speech was rather interesting," said Callahan the interview from the team's website. "The adjustment was, we were going to out­will them and outwork them."

And outwork them is exactly what UConn did. Butler's abysmal field goal percentage in the second half allowed the Huskies to break away to an eventual 20 point edge early.

The Bulldogs could get nothing to drop for a streak of 13 minutes, and their efforts toward the end of the game were not enough to close the gap.

"If Butler was able to make more from the field and stop more of UConn's points in the paint, I think they could have prevailed," said Giddinge. "Regardless, UConn deserved to win because they were the better team."

The scene in Storrs was just as electric, as upwards of 7,500 students packed Gampel Pavilion located in the middle of the UConn campus.

"Seeing thousands of students packed into one dome, cheering for one common cause was incredible," said former Sacred Heart student and current UConn junior Ryan Sullivan.

It's a feeling that people there will never forget.
Senior catcher Shannon McCoy tries to beat the throw at first base in last week's game.

“Everyone’s attitude after this weekend could not be any better. We are at our top game,” said McCoy.

Despite the successful weekend, Coach London knows that the team still has work to do.

“We had a nice weekend in the NEC. Our team knows that there is no time to celebrate or rest because we have a long way to go before we accomplish our goals. So the attitude after the weekend is “back to work” to get better at what we need to do keep winning,” said London.

The Pioneers are off to their best start in the Northeast Conference since becoming Division I with a 5-1 conference record. The Pioneers take the field in another NEC filled weekend this Saturday at 1 p.m. with a double header at Central Connecticut State.

The Spectrum/Seann Serpico

Men’s tennis looks to take conference crown

Sean Elliott
Asst. Photo Editor

The Sacred Heart men’s tennis team came into their home opener of the 2011 season with a 7-6 record and looked to take advantage of their stretch of matches against conference rivals and two wins the team played pretty well. It was good preparation for our upcoming matches,” said senior Kasyanov.

The Pioneers faced Fairfield this past weekend, April 3. Although weather conditions with rain from overnight saturating the courts.

The last minute decision to move the match to Fairfield University did not allow the players to warm up and did not help either team during the match.

Fairfield came away with the victory 5-2.

Miller and Conrad lost their matches 0-2, 6-3. Other, Kasyanov won his 13th straight match defeating Aneil Bhalla, 6-2, 6-3.

It was a pretty good match, the whole team played pretty well. It was good preparation for our upcoming matches,” said senior Kasyanov.

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Miller and Conrad lost their matches 6-3, 6-3 and 6-0, 6-1 respectively. However, Kasyanov extended his match win streak to 14 in a row and won a tough three set match, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

Although it was a tough loss to swallow the team remains optimistic and focused on the conference matches ahead.

“Overall the team looks great. We haven’t lost a conference match and now we have Quinnipiac this Friday,” said senior Chris Ujkic.

Starting tomorrow, April 8, the Pioneers have five straight home matches before the Northeast Conference Tournament.

Two of those five matches are against conference rivals and two wins the team needs in order to get the number one seed in the tournament.

“We’re real deep and are playing our best tennis when it counts,” said Ujkic.

With only the weekend matches remaining in their season, this is when it counts.

“Going into these last two conference matches we are all very confident. We are all playing well right now and having a great season against some tough opponents. Were excited for the last few matches and competing for an NEC title this weekend,” said senior Michael Syer.

If the Pioneers win their two matches this weekend, they’ll earn the top record in the Northeast Conference.

The Northeast Conference tournament will begin April 15 in West Windsor, NJ.
Pioneers look to be inaugural NEC Champions

DAUSES DELIVERS

Sophomore Trevor Dauses (#21) sets himself for a shot on net in last Saturday's conference opener versus Wagner. Dauses recorded a goal and an assist in the game.