Farrington leaves mark on Sacred Heart community

Jennifer Biagiotti
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University was recently informed of Sister Marie Julianne Farrington's passing.

Members of the Sacred Heart community who were present during her time on campus are recognizing Farrington's considerable efforts over the years.

Since Sept. 2006 Farrington served several roles at the university. She acted as a special consultant to the president, a position that included organizing seminars, offering hospitality, and working as a liaison.

According to the Sacred Heart University website, Farrington was a "superior general of her order in Namur, Belgium, where she played a significant role in Rwanda and worked in refugee assistance in Thailand."

Farrington worked closely with Dr. Michael Higgins, vice president for mission and catholic identity at Sacred Heart. She began her work as Higgins' assistant and became his friend.

Higgins is appreciative of Farrington's work. "She had a lot of personal integrity," he said. "She believed in what she did, and her life conformed to that. She was who she was, and what you saw was what you got."

When Higgins first arrived at the university he had no car and no form of personal transportation. According to Higgins, Farrington would lend him her car in order to get around and helped him set up his house in the community.

"It was just simple acts of charity and generosity," said Higgins. "She was often very quiet, but when she was around it was her presence that made her prominent."

"She embodied the best principles of an institution."

"The number of years Farrington served at the University was insignificant compared to the impact she had on the community and area."

"The university was ennobled by having her here," said Higgins. "She acted as a special consultant to the president, a position that included organizing seminars, offering hospitality, and working as a liaison."

According to Higgins, Farrington would lend him her car in order to get around and helped him set up his house in the community.

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"She believed in what she did, and her life conformed to that. She was who she was, and what you saw was what you got."

-- Dr. Michael Higgins, vice president for mission and catholic identity

Sacred Heart welcomes Chi Omega to campus

Kerry Browne
Staff Reporter

Chi Omega, a new sorority on campus, held its installation ceremony on Friday, Jan. 27 and Saturday, Jan. 28 at Sacred Heart's University Commons Auditorium. The ceremony also included the induction of 73 members to the newly founded Kappa Mu chapter of Chi Omega.

Chi Omega was founded Apr. 5, 1895 in Fayetteville, Ark. at the University of Arkansas by four women. Since then, the organization has grown to 174 chapters, including the local Kappa Mu chapter.

The basic features of Chi Omega include: colors of cardinal (red) and straw (yellow), white carnation flower, the owl as a mascot, and their philanthropy for the Make-A-Wish foundation. Their mission values center around personal development.

Chapter president Eva Magnuson, a senior, explained the reason for the sorority's creation.

"Greek Life is expanding at a fast rate at Sacred Heart. There was a want and need for a new sorority on campus," she said.

Magnuson added that Katie Nichols and Denise Tiberio began the search process, narrowed it to four, formed a committee with other Greek Life members to vote on who may be selected, and decided on Chi Omega. From that point, the colonization process began.

Sophomores秦国 Diehl and Amanda Marano explained that they were introduced to Chi Omega through information tables on campus last spring, and that the recruitment process began last fall.

Both were attracted to the philanthropy of the alliance with the Make-A-Wish foundation, but they each had personal reasons for joining.

Diehl had been interested in Chi Omega through friends who are members at other colleges, while Marano was attracted to personal achievement requirements and the opportunity to be a founding member of a new chapter.

Magnuson expressed gratitude for the help of Chi Omega national consultant Molly Onuffer who was sent to assist the new chapter's installation process over last fall semester.

"Molly lived at Taft Apartments and was with us every step of the way during the fall semester," said Magnuson.

Kappa Mu members were also assisted by members of the Sigma Mu chapter at Babson College.

Of the 73 members of the Kappa Mu chapter, nine are seniors.

Senior Nicole Senetcen felt that the sorority fit nicely with her beliefs.

"I was thinking about joining one throughout college, but there wasn't one I was drawn to," she said. "And I chose Chi Omega because it has all the values I was looking for."
In the summer of 2012, Sacred Heart University will welcome local elementary school students for Horizons, a summer enrichment program.

According to the university’s website, the six-week program will accept 32 low-income Bridgeport students entering first or second grade.

The program, which is part of the Horizons National network, is designed to help public school students from low-income families with a broad range of academic achievements. The children will work on their math and reading skills, and also work in STEM (science, technology, education, and mathematics) fields.

The main issue that Sacred Heart wants to address is the summer learning loss trend that happens to schoolchildren from poverty-stricken areas today.

Summer learning loss occurs when lower-income children fall behind in their education during the summer months while middle-income or high-income children jump ahead with their academics. As a result, some lower-income students are three years behind others by the time they reach fifth grade. Sacred Heart is working aggressively to fight this trend.

“We are very happy to have the opportunity to address the achievement gap in the state of Connecticut, and work with the families of Bridgeport in academic programming over the summer,” said Vice Provost Mary Lou DeRosa.

Since the program will take place during the summer, there will be no standard curriculum. The teachers are encouraged to have the freedom to be creative and to make a comfortable environment for the children, which will allow their creative energy to prosper.

Not only are these children working inside the classroom but also outside of it, as they are given swimming lessons in nearby community pools. The idea is to boost their self-esteem so that they can live a more fulfilling life.

The teachers that are hired are not from Sacred Heart’s own staff, but are specially hired from private and public schools around the area.

Students believe this program will be a perfect fit for a school like Sacred Heart, which is driven by community service.

“I think this program is an excellent idea,” said sophomore Kristin Bennett. “It’s great that Sacred Heart is supporting the children of Bridgeport so they don’t fall behind in school.”

Sacred Heart will be the fourth college campus to host Horizons National. According to their website, Horizons is active in 10 states and has had over 2,000 students come through the program.

The new program will provide new openings for both students and the university.

“We are very happy to have the opportunity to address the achievement gap in the state of Connecticut, and work with the families of Bridgeport in academic programming over the summer,” said Vice Provost Mary Lou DeRosa.

Everyone remembers those impressionable years, commonly referred to as high school. We can all look back to a specific teacher or friend or night that had a significant impact on the person that we are today. Now imagine that you are that person for someone else.

Sacred Heart University Volunteer Programs are giving students from the Sacred Heart community the chance to mentor students from Bassick High School during the school days.

Mentoring includes not only helping the students with homework and academics, but also being a friend and confidant. This is an amazing opportunity to set a good example for a young and impressionable student.

Sacred Heart has several other mentoring opportunities available as well. Sunshine Kids, for example, focuses mainly on elementary school children from the Evergreen Network, an organization that aids families affected by HIV and AIDS. The Academic Mentoring Program, or AMP, focuses on Middle School students, encouraging them to maintain academic success. Mi Amigo is another mentoring program that focuses specifically on Hispanic children from the Luiz Marin School in Bridgeport. Project STRONG isn’t focused on a specific age or grade, but rather on improving and strengthening self-esteem and confidence in young girls.

All of these programs are run through the Volunteer Programs Office at Sacred Heart, and Maura Cook can be contacted to get more information.

Just as each of the previously mentioned organizations has a specific target group, this new mentoring program at Bassick targets high school students. This is a particularly important group to target as college students, because we are an example of their near future.

Many high school students in the Bridgeport area don’t even see college as an achievable goal. However, by meeting and working with college students, this goal becomes more accessible, more attainable.

If accepted into the program, you would be assigned a freshman at Bassick High School with the goal of staying with that one student during your time here at Sacred Heart, in the hope of truly developing a strong bond with the child.

Like we previously discussed, not only will you be helping them with their homework and setting and achieving their academic goals, but you would also be helping them with social struggles, giving them advice about their future plans, and helping to keep them on track so they can accomplish any life goals they may have set for themselves.

This is an amazing opportunity to help a child realize that a college education, a strong successful future, is something that isn’t too far out of their reach. You become a role model, a best friend and a hero to these students. You become that person, that situation, that influence that changes their lives and impacts the person that they become.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor and having a remarkable impact on the life of an impressionable high school student, please contact Stephanie Reyes in the Volunteer Programs Office at Sacred Heart, at reyessl440@sacredheart.edu to get an application.

Julianne O’Hara
Staff Reporter
Academic research showcase reflects on War of 1812 bicentennial anniversary

Jessica Laby
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University's new Academic Research Showcase series kicked off on Jan. 25. Prof. Jennifer McLaughlin, instructor for the department of history and director of the women's studies program at Sacred Heart, began the inaugural Presidential Lecture Series. McLaughlin presented her research, entitled "Reflecting on the Bicentennial of the War of 1812," in the Schine Auditorium. She was selected out of a pool of her colleagues to present her perspective on the theme of "New Beginnings."

The lecture series is an opportunity for faculty members to share their research with the community.

"I'm always amazed at how the same starting point leads people in so many different directions," said President John J. Petillo, Ph.D. in his blog on the Sacred Heart University website.

The president's theme was combined with McLaughlin's research to form this portion of the showcase.

"While it may not have been a new beginning in the relations between England and the U.S., it did result in a new beginning for the United States, not having to worry so much about the presence of the British in North America," McLaughlin said during her lecture. "They are still there because Canada belongs to Britain, but the boundaries are more firmly delineated as a consequence."

While mentally preparing herself for the event, McLaughlin reached out to a colleague of hers, visiting instructor Michael Lands, for advice.

"He reminded me, and I needed reminding, that what we do as historians is different than what a lot of other academics do, and that is tell stories," McLaughlin said.

"Sometimes we forget about the stories because students have to read books, they have to write papers, and have to look for certain things. As a result, sometimes the story kind of gets forgotten."

Listening to this advice, McLaughlin began her lecture with a family photograph of herself, her younger brother, and her father standing in front of the New York City skyline in 1976.

She explained how, now the focus of the picture would be the Twin Towers standing tall in the background, but that at the time the photograph was taken, the focus was solely a family trip to see the Statue of Liberty.

The Schine Auditorium was filled with students, faculty, family, and members of the community anxious to learn about the seemingly forgotten War of 1812.

"I've been a student and advisee of Professor McLaughlin for the past four years, so I came to support her," said senior Emily Bacon.

McLaughlin joked that in an "unscientific poll," given to her students in her freshman history classes, there was little to no knowledge about the War of 1812. She wanted to change that, since it was a turning point in history.

Once the lecture segment had finished, McLaughlin led a question-and-answer session.

During this part, a young family member of McLaughlin's named Molly raised her hand to contribute information that she had learned in her social studies class taken to the conversation.

Attendees were able to learn a great deal from the presentation.

"I didn't know much about the War of 1812, but now I do," said student Andrew Adam.

The Spectrum/Johanna Oroszko

Professor Jennifer McLaughlin delivers a speech on her research on The War of 1812. I know more about it," said senior Melissa Boyles, a student of McLaughlin.

However, the lecture even appealed to those who are not in McLaughlin's classes.

"I gained an appreciation of the depth of research people get into," said freshman Brent Middleton. "It was mind-boggling."

Republican still fighting to defeat Romney

Gingrich, others vow to campaign 'all the way to the convention'

Associated Press

The caffeinated, rapid-fire GOP presidential primary is about to ease into a slower pace and a more spread-out map, creating new challenges for Newt Gingrich.

February will bring several primaries and caucuses likely to lack the intensity of Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Florida. It has only one debate, three weeks from now. And the month contains contests in states with significant Mormon presences — Nevada, Arizona and Colorado — and in Michigan, where Mitt Romney's father was governor.

All these factors could pose problems for Gingrich, the former House speaker who is struggling to keep pace with Romney in Tuesday's Florida primary. Traveling to and within the seven states with February elections will be costly, and Romney consistently has shown superior fundraising abilities. The dearth of televised debates will rob Gingrich of forums that revived his campaign in South Carolina, even if he performed rather poorly in two subsequent debates in Florida.

For Republican activists and political junkies, February will present something of a lull. No single state will enjoy yet another resurgence. States voting that day in- clude Georgia, which Gingrich represented in Congress for 20 years, and neighboring Tennessee.

But Gingrich failed to qualify for the ballot in Virginia, which also votes that day, as does Romney's home state of Massachusetts. Neighboring Vermont and Mormon-friendly Idaho also are Super Tuesday states. The others are Alaska, North Dakota, Ohio and Oklahoma.

The libertarian-leaning Paul has virtually no chance of winning the Republican nomination. But he's targeting states that allocate delegates proportionately, hoping to win enough to assure him a prominent voice at the August national convention.

If Gingrich can make it to Super Tuesday, he might still yet another resurgence. Some voting that day include Georgia, which Gingrich represented in Congress for 20 years, and neighboring Tennessee.

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The president's theme was combined with McLaughlin's research to form this portion of the showcase.

"We're entering a phase now where the question of whether a campaign is built for prime-time will be tested," said Romney consultant Kevin Madden. "Can you organize enough voters, both in-person and on-air, across multiple states for multiple weeks?"

Romney "is well-positioned for this Stretch," Madden said, having built "the kind of campaign that can compete in conditions that are more like the general election."

The first GOP contest after Florida is the Nevada caucus, on Saturday.

Romney won the state in 2008 and should do well there given that and its heavy Mormon presence. However, Texas Rep. Ron Paul also has made a significant effort in Nevada.

On Feb. 7, Missouri has a primary, and Colorado and Minnesota hold caucuses. Four days later, Maine will announce the results of its local caucuses. Then there's a 17-day break before the Arizona and Michigan primaries on Feb. 28.

Santorum, a former senator from Pennsylvania, will face painful choices about how to allocate his resources. Gingrich will, too. But his big South Carolina win, and his 30 years of national political prominence, provide him more money and momentum.

Romney was already looking past Florida on Monday, planning to stop in Minnesota on his way to Nevada on Wednesday.

After Florida, the importance of gaining national attention and buzz begins to yield ground to the state-by-state hunt for delegates. That often involves painstaking strategies that are less sexy than TV debates and witty one-liners. Tactics will vary from place to place, since some states hold caucuses rather than primaries, and some allot their delegates on a proportional, not winner-take-all, basis.

President Barack Obama proved the importance of a smart delegate strategy in 2008. He won the Democratic nomination partly because his campaign outmaneuvered Hillary Rodham Clinton's operation with its early targeting of small caucus states. The campaign spent $50 million on television and radio ads and set up field offices in every state, with a special focus on the early states of Iowa and New Hampshire.
Library receives collection of Holocaust books

Mike Peterson
News Editor

Sacred Heart University can now count a collection of Holocaust books as part of its catalogue. Dr. Geoffrey and Renee Hartman have donated 600 to 800 volumes of scholarly work to the Ryan Matura Library.

According to the university’s website, the Hartmans’ collection has been compiled from their work on the Holocaust Survivors Film Project. Mrs. Hartman, who was deported from Slovakia and spent a year in a concentration camp, inspired her husband to appreciate survivor testimonies through her work with the project.

Students recognize the value of the addition.

"I think that with our library being renovated, the new material will broaden the catalogue," said senior Brittany Sawyer. "It should also give students a variety of sources to use for projects."

Senior Adam Turner agrees.

"A Catholic university should expose students to several religious backgrounds," he said. "This helps to accomplish that."

Renee Hartman was deported to the Bergen Belsen concentration camp in 1944, when she was 10 years old. She and her younger sister spent a year there before they were liberated.

Dr. Geoffrey Hartman was born in Germany, and sent to Great Britain by the Kindertransport rescue movement in 1939. He was later reunited with his mother in the U.S., where he stayed to attend college and taught at Yale University for nearly 40 years. While at Yale, Hartman began collecting testimonies from Holocaust survivors.

Many students found the Hartmans’ story to be compelling.

"I think it’s amazing," said Sawyer. "The fact that they made it through the tragedy, and are now able to donate the works, is very cool."

The Hartmans donated the books to Sacred Heart because of the efforts by the Center for Christian and Jewish Understanding (CCJU).

"We wanted to make the donation to a university that has an active program in Christian-Jewish understanding," Dr. Hartman told Sacred Heart. "The people that we talked with at Sacred Heart impressed us, so it was an easy decision."

The CCJU is an educational and research division of Sacred Heart. It was founded in 1992, and promotes dialogue between Jews and Christians. According to the university’s website, the center seeks to promote “greater knowledge, understanding, and harmony between religions.”

Students and faculty hope that the collection will be a beneficial resource.

"I hope that kids take advantage of the books," said sophomore Jasmine Ramirez. "Sacred Heart is very lucky to have such an incredible resource."

SHU’s Career Development and Placement Center offers a program called Major in Success, which is designed to help you learn more about yourself.

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All sessions held in Curtis Hall 215

E-mail Aimee Piccin to register or for more information:
piccina@sacredheart.edu

Scan for our website
Super Bowl brings back festive traditions

Erin Marley
Staff Reporter

As Super Bowl Sunday approaches, the anticipation of a rematch between the New England Patriots and New York Giants looms ahead.

While some family and friends remain divided when it comes to which team they're rooting for, many Sacred Heart University students agree that they have certain Super Bowl Sunday traditions they take part in year after year.

"My family always goes to the house of whomever has the biggest TV," said freshman classmate Chris Lombardi, a long time Packers fan. "I plan on rooting for the Giants. All 31 teams are against the Patriots -- if you're not a Patriots fan, you root against them." Lombardi is not the only one rooting against the Patriots.

"I'm a New York Jets fan, but I also am going to root for the Giants," said Brigley, who said he is going to watch the game with family at his grandmother's house.

For sophomore Joe Tulino, Super Bowl Sunday is a day to celebrate more than just football.

"My sister's birthday usually falls on the day of the Super Bowl. The whole family comes over to celebrate and watch the game. It is always a fun time," said Tulino.

Although all fans may not agree on what team to root for, they agree on how crucial the proper food is for the game.

"We always have the Mexican dip my mom makes," said freshman Briana Connolly. "Chittick agreed that food is a large part of appreciating the game.

"Seven layer dip, chili, and wings are always the staple items of choice," she said.

Although there are many traditions that revolve around the game itself, for sophomores Rob Volk, there is only one tradition.

"The only tradition I have is to make as much food as possible," said Volk.

While the Super Bowl is a time to party and get together with friends for some students, others said that it is simply a time to relax with family.

"My family and I usually stay in and order Chinese food," said freshman Cara Curran.

"My little brothers like to paint their faces for cot.

Many students agreed with Curran and use the Super Bowl as a time to enjoy the company of their loved ones.

"I usually watch it at home with my dad," said sophomore Chris Lombardi.

Amanda Rivera
Contributing Writer

How important is a good night's sleep?

Students' sleep habits vary depending on living situations, preference, and schedules

Caitlin McLaughlin
Staff Reporter

For Sacred Heart University students, getting a good night's sleep is a high priority for some and a trivial matter to others.

Regardless, the transition from sleeping at home to sleeping at college has an impact on students' sleeping patterns.

"Wake up earlier at home which I prefer because then I feel more productive during the day," said junior Catherine Glass.

Many students agreed and said that when they're at home, they have a more normal, regulated sleep schedule.

"At home, I go to bed earlier than I normally do at school," said junior Kelly King.

Several students said that although college grants you more freedom with living away from your parents, adjusting to living with a roommate has had an impact on their sleeping habits.

"If you respect each other's schedules, then it is not so bad," said Glass.

The biggest problem that students seem to have with their roommates is when one prefers napping more during the day and staying up all night, while the other has a strict sleeping schedule of only sleeping at night.

"It becomes easier as the year goes on," said King. "You eventually become comfortable enough to give each other your opinions and ideas."

As students become more accustomed to their sleep schedule at school, their routines change over time.

"Freshman year I used to nap every day, but now I don't nap at all," said Glass.

Other students said that other outside factors within their sleeping routines also vary depending on location.

"At home, I absolutely need the TV on to fall asleep, but when I am at school, all I need is a little bit of light in the room and I fall asleep fine," said junior Julie Albanese.

Many students base their sleeping habits around their homework, classes, and organizations that they are involved in. They said that this decreases the ability to maintain a steady, organized sleep schedule.

"You just have to make it work," said King. "Eventually you get used to each day's different schedules."
Staff Reporter

With the addition of the Internet, social relationships have changed passwords. I'd say we exchanged them nothing to worry about.

A lot of people attach too much weight and unneeded pressure to using the "boyfriend" and "girlfriend" labels. The main point of these labels is that even if the other side is trying to find out whether or not the relationship is an exclusive one.

The exclusivity is the most glaring part of a relationship because no one wants to be someone else's option. I don't know too many people who don't have a problem with their prospective boyfriend or girlfriend "running wild."

The point I'm trying to make is that while "the talk" is something that needs to be done, it does not have to always be complicated or be some grand romantic gesture. As the movies like "The Notebook" make it out to be.

Girls listen, just an FYI. If any guy did what the dude in "The Notebook" did in real life, it would be beyond creepy. Sorry, but it is never going to happen.

In regards to when to start using labels, that is not something you can simply count down a calendar. No, there are no rules that are set in stone when it comes to this. Just as people vary, so does the situation. That is all about feeling what is going on and what both of you are looking for.

When you get to the point where you're thinking, "now what?" you might just be at that point where it is time to start using labels.

To be honest, I asked my current girlfriend if we were boyfriend and girlfriend in a hookah bar at 1 in the morning after meeting her through a friend a couple months earlier. Since then, we've been dating for the last nine months (it seems much longer when you actually see it in writing).

But basically, while it's not the most ideal place to be, "Oh by the way..." it needed to happen, so why hesitate? Just do it. It had hit a point where everything above was popping in my head and I just wanted to figure out what exactly we were doing.

What you guys will probably realize, whether it was last week or down the road, is that I try not to take these things too seriously. Life's not as complicated as people try to make it.

These topics are basically the issues that gradually get resolved throughout your four years as everyone transitions from high school to college. The high definitions of relationships to the adult ones.

So if there is a message you take away from this, it's just to go for it and don't let someone else's ideas on relationships intimidate you into not living your life to the fullest. Go out and get what you want.
I feel this is a topic I discuss with my friends on a far too regular basis—people who abuse their Internet privileges. It's pathetic that I let it bother me this much, but it is my duty to use such a prestigious platform as the Spectrum to inform my peers who are on the wrong path.

Simply put, rather than use my editorialspace to rant about something, I am going to use it as a guide for those who simply do not know how to behave themselves on Facebook—you know, and most importantly we know, who you are.

5.) Checking into locations, and tagging your friends. Why do people do this? I've literally never understood it.

Although this is not the worst offence, partaking in it encourages the Facebook gods to continue such features. Awesome? You're an Applebees watching the UFC fight and you've let Facebook know. That's your choice to broadcast, but why drag your friends into the embarrassment?

4.) Pinching your profile picture. So wait, you're not naturally airbrushed? I wait, you're not naturally airbrushed? I would awkwardly draw out an annunciation in the above mentioned wall portraits. "Hiiii, just wanted to say heyyyyyyyy. I miniminstus youuuuuu. My life is in chasasmals."

3.) Inappropriately informative statuses. After your class at 9:30, your 12:30 block, work at 5, and dinner with your roommates around 7:30 (insert &hearts at any point throughout), please consider deactivating your Facebook account.

2.) And finally, the most egregious offense ever to be committed on what I lovingly refer to as "the book," making your profile picture the ultrasound of your fetus. Luckily, most of our peers are not in this stage of life, but once in a while one of your 900 Facebook friends will always have someone pregnant. If you are one of these people, Homeland Security should revoke your Internet rights for five to seven years.

With this said, the adage, "live and let live," will just not escape my mind. Sacred Heart was an adjustment to say the least. I was quite shy and got intimidated easily. It wasn't until the beginning of my junior year that I got involved with on campus organizations. As a media studies major, you are required to take the class, News Writing and Reporting. This meant writing for the Spectrum every week as part of our class assignments. For those of you who have written for any type of news publication, you know that it's a completely different animal than saying writing an essay. It was a challenge, but it

When I was 14 years old, a psychic told me I was going to be a writer. "I'm not sure what kind of writer," she said. "But you will be a writer." I was seriously humbled. "I'm not going to be a fashion designer?" I said.

"No, a writer."

My 14-year-old self thought, "A writer? Where is the fun in that? I mean, being a writer is basically like having homework all the time, and I hate homework."

Senior year of high school I applied to eight colleges and universities. Six of them, design schools in New York, one of them a commuter school close to home, and one of them a small Catholic college in Fairfield, Conn.

Needless to say after many heated debates with my parents, I ended up at Sacred Heart as a media studies major. By this time, I had accepted that I would not be a fashion designer. After all, it's a really tough field and my chances of winning "Project Runway" and taking the fashion world by storm seemed slim to none.

Sacred Heart was an adjustment to say the least. I was quite shy and got intimidated easily. It wasn't until the beginning of my junior year that I got involved with on campus organizations. As a media studies major, you are required to take the class, News Writing and Reporting. This meant writing for the Spectrum every week as part of our class assignments.

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Art students represent on west coast

Kayley O’Brien
Staff Reporter

They take weeks to think up, months to prepare, and are remembered for years. Art students at Sacred Heart University put hours of work into their pieces and their dedication has paid off.

Seven students have been selected to compete in The Los Angeles Society of Illustrators competition.

The competition is one of the top two competitions that take place for illustrators nationwide. Universities from all over the country enter their artwork, ranging from digital to hand-drawn pieces.

The seven students nominated are Rachel Fogarty, Maria Damianou, Amanda Wenger, Bruna Zavan, Kathryn Connolly, Jessica Geraghty and Michelle Navarro.

In the past, Sacred Heart student artists have consistently competed in the Annual Student Scholarship Competition at The Society of Illustrators in New York. Many have had their work displayed in some of the country’s most prestigious exhibitions.

In this year’s Los Angeles competition, Amanda Wenger entered her work, “Improbable Possibilities,” which makes the impossible look real.

The piece was created with watercolor, colored pencils, and gouache, and is inspired by petrified wood that she saw in an aquarium. Using the wood as a basis for a desert canyon, Wegner added a cactus, a lizard, fish, and sky to complete her abstract picture.

The recognition is something Wenger is familiar with but still flattered by. “This is actually not the first piece of mine that has been accepted in a Society of Illustrators exhibition,” she said. “In any case, I’m honored to be included in such a prestigious show.”

Michelle Navarro, another nominee, is also honored by the nod to her watercolor illustration titled, “Trombone Blues.” “This is an extremely honorable accomplishment to have been awarded, and I am so thrilled to have been accepted into it,” she said.

Her piece depicts a man playing a trombone, done entirely in blue.

Jocelyn Novella, assistant director of counseling at Sacred Heart, finds it refreshing to see a celebrity use their famous name in such a positive way. “I think that any program that focuses on self-esteem and self-confidence in young people, and especially young women is really important,” she said. “Having her name behind it makes a huge difference.”

On the other hand, Lady Gaga is known for her skin-bearing outfits and her racy performances, which Novella believes something like the Born This Way Foundation would benefit Sacred Heart as well. “Any celebrity that is well-known would get the attention of Sacred Heart students, which is great, especially since it’s covering topics that are so important” she said.

Lady Gaga goes ivy league

Johanna Ovsenek
Staff Reporter

Lady Gaga has performed duets with many chart-topping singers, such as Tony Bennett and Beyonce, but this time she’s using her talents for more than singing.

Topping singers, such as Tony Bennett and Beyonce, but instead is teaming up with Harvard University.

Combining her efforts with Harvard, she is starting a non-profit, charitable organization called the Born this Way Foundation.

The foundation is a combined effort from the California Endowment, the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. It’s mission is something close to Lady Gaga’s heart.

According to The Harvard Crimson, the foundation will work on promoting self-confidence, well-being, anti-bullying, mentoring, career development, and advocacy for young people.

Gaga and her mother, Cynthia Germanotta announced that the foundation will officially launch at an event on Feb. 29, at Harvard’s Sanders Theatre.

“My daughter’s foundation was born out of her passion to create a better world where people are kinder and nicer to one another and are accepted for who they are, regardless of how different they may be,” said Germanotta to MTV.com.

This is not the first time Gaga has tried to make a difference in the lives of adolescents. In fact, she has been a leader in shedding light on the issue of bullying for many years now.

After the suicide of bullied 14-year-old Jamey Rodemeyer in September, Gaga met with President Obama at a fundraiser to discuss bullying and ways to prevent it.

“Together we hope to establish a standard of bravery and kindness, as well as a community worldwide that protects and nurtures others in the face of bullying and abandonment,” said Lady Gaga in a statement regarding her foundation.

Her record-breaking sales, sold out shows, and in sane fan following are evidence of Gaga’s impression on pop culture.

Junior Justin Brewer believes that this over-the-top package will give her the advantage to make this foundation work.

“Anything with Lady Gaga’s name on it will be effective,” he said. “She’s globally known and is a respectable icon for young adults.”

Jocelyn Novella, assistant director of counseling at Sacred Heart, finds it refreshing to see a celebrity use their famous name in such a positive way.

“I think that any program that focuses on self-esteem and self-confidence in young people, and especially young women is really important,” she said. “Having her name behind it makes a huge difference.”

On the other hand, Lady Gaga is known for her skin-bearing outfits and her racy performances, which Novella believes is a risky message.

However, Novella is hopeful the message will get through in a positive way.

Harvard may be the pioneer for such a collaboration, but sophomore Dianis Mercado believes something like the Born This Way Foundation would benefit Sacred Heart as well.

“Any celebrity that is well-known would get the attention of Sacred Heart students, which is great, especially since it’s covering topics that are so important” she said.

Sacred Heart students’ work shown above was accepted into Los Angeles Society of Illustrators competition.

[Photos Courtesy of Sacred Heart Public Relations]
Independent films
‘dance’ into mainstream

Maryanne McGoorty
Staff Reporter

“Little Miss Sunshine,” “Reservoir Dogs,” and “Clarks” are just a few famous independent films out of hundreds that premiered at the annual Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah.

Every January, since 1978, people all over the country come to watch these films. Over a period of 10 days; about 181 qualified films are chosen to screen, out of the nearly 9,000 submissions.

The movie festival not only gives American independent filmmakers a chance to show off their movies gaining recognition, but it also gives them more opportunities to showcase their filmmaking skills to major studios. If the studios enjoy the film, they can buy it and release it to mainstream audiences.

According to their website, The Sundance Film Festival is sponsored by the Sundance Institute, created by actor Robert Redford.

The institute, which was first secluded in the Utah mountains, was meant to be a safe house for filmmakers to “create an environment designed to foster independence, discovery, and new voices in American film.”

The Sundance Film Festival was created to showcase those films.

“We are, and always have been, a festival about the filmmakers. So what are they doing? Are they saying? They are making statements about the changing world we are living in,” said Redford in a press release.

The films that are featured at the festival are not the big-budget blockbusters shown in theaters. These are sometimes the films that a number of people over look due to their simplicity and raw story lines.

Sophomore Kat Lindsay thinks that independent films serve as the basis of filmmaking.

“Our media today is so focused on commercialism, I think people like to lean more towards independent films because they are more realistic,” she said.

“It’s all about the art of the film, not the cheesy explosives and big named stars.”

Despite its prestige, Sundance isn’t for every movie-lover.

Freshman Ian Cortell admits to favoring big budget films like “Avatar,” and other blockbuster hits.

“I like to watch the big action films because they keep me entertained the whole time and I like all of the explosives,” Cortell said. “I tried watching Half Nelson,” which is an independent film, and I fell asleep during it.”

Although some of the films are not full of action, they are still a part of the American film industry, which makes the Sundance Film Festival an asset.

This year, “Beast of the Southern Wild” by Benh Zeitlin took home the Grand Jury Prize for dramatic film.

“The Surrogates,” a film by Ben Lewin, based on the life of poet and journalist Mark O’Brien, was recognized with the Dramatic Audience Award.

“While these awards further distinguish those that have had the most impact on audiences and our jury, the level of talent showcased across the board at the Festival was really impressive,” said Director of the Sundance Film Festival John Cooper, in an interview with thefilmstage.com.

“All are to be congratulated and thanked for sharing their work with us.”

YOUR GUIDETO THIS YEAR’S AWARD SEASON

January 2012

Sunday, January 15

69th ANNUAL GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS

In case you missed it:

The Golden Globes: Even after last year’s torrent of controversy over his offensive remarks, Ricky Gervais was asked back to host this year’s show, which premiered Jan 15. His toned down jokes made for less entertainment, but more celebrity smiles.

February 2012

Sunday, February 12

54th GRAMMY AWARDS

Set your DVRs!

The Grammys: Music biggest night gets the nation dancing with performances by Coldplay, Rihanna, Bruno Mars, Taylor Swift, Nicki Minaj, and more, Feb. 12.

Sunday, February 26


Academy Awards: Trying to redeem the show from last year’s slams, Billy Crystal is taking over the hosting gig on Feb. 26. This year’s big nominees are, “The Descendants,” and “The Artist.”

‘Contraband’ smuggles into theaters

Mark Wahlberg takes family man to new extremes in this action flick.

Jeff Daley
Staff Reporter

In the movie, Mark Wahlberg’s character, Chris Farraday, must return to his dangerous life of drug smuggling, in order to defend his family from a failed smuggling attempt. Put up against an obvious, high pitched loose cannon of a drug lord, Tim Briggs (Giovanni Ribisi), Farraday hooks up with his old crew and attempts to smuggle millions of counterfeit dollars from Panama back into the United States.

However, things begin to take a turn for the worst and Chris and his crew get stalled in their mission. Forcing him to call upon his old skills, Farraday races against the clock to pay back debts and keep his family out of danger once and for all.

Mark Wahlberg has “action star” on lockdown, vowing to defend his family from anything that threatens them, and busting up the thugs that get in his way.

Balthasar Kormakur who produced as well as starred as the lead role in the original Icelandic film version, “Reykjavik-Rotterdam,” came back to write and direct this remake.

For his first Hollywood movie, I thought Kormakur did an okay job.

I love movies and I do my best to keep up to date with upcoming films. So when I saw that Mark Wahlberg was doing another brief film I was looking forward to it because I enjoyed his performance in “The Italian Job.”

After watching the trailer for “Contraband” I knew this was a film worth seeing in theaters.

Overall, I thought “Contraband” was an average movie. It wasn’t the best action flick to start off the year but it wasn’t the worst.

I thought the way that the movie was shot for an action film was pretty good however.

The close action shots complimented the tension between Chris and his encounters and made me feel like I was there with him in each chaotic action sequence, which captured my attention.

Containing some witty humor, “Contraband” takes you from sitting on the edge of your seat to laughing at the brief moments of humor.

With a lot of action, a few twists and some laughs, “Contraband” is your typical action movie that sends the message, “family is family” and you have to do what you have to do to protect it.

Get Reel gives “Contraband”
Newly appointed director adds much to Volunteer Programs

Kimberly Woodruff
Staff Reporter

After moving nearly 1,000 miles away from “The Sunshine State,” Connecticut warmly welcomed Matthew Kaye to his new home as the Director of Volunteer Programs at Sacred Heart University.

Upon his arrival, Kaye was astounded by the commitment that the students and faculty members contribute to different volunteer services within the community.

Considering a number of years in volunteerism, Kaye felt ready to begin a new phase at the university.

“I really like the program here. It is a unique program and I think Sacred Heart students are very lucky,” said Kaye.

Kaye joined Sacred Heart’s Volunteer Program staff in December 2011. Students and faculty are excited to see what Kaye will bring to the widespread program, both on and off campus.

“He has very genuine intentions for Volunteer Programs and wants to work with the students and for the students,” said sophomore Kate Gallagher.

Kaye’s positive attitude comes from almost an entire lifetime of volunteering.

“I started at age 10 when I was a Boy Scout. In high school, I volunteered through the church, and in college I volunteered at the elementary school on campus,” said Kaye.

Despite his continual volunteer service throughout his childhood and young adulthood, Kaye felt that there was more out there to pursue.

In 1996, he traveled to the Dominican Republic through the Peace Corps, and reached out to those in need of an improved education. This opportunity allowed Kaye to provide guidance within the Dominican communities.

The Peace Corps foundation works closely with youth, family, and community development, as well as environmental development, education, and the usage of appropriate technology.

As a senior trainer for the United States Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic, Kaye did several different things.

“These experiences and past will definitely be beneficial to Sacred Heart and Volunteer Programs,” said junior, Bill Haug, who recently returned from the Mississippi Mission Trip, organized by Volunteer Programs.

Along with his new position at Sacred Heart, Kaye has been working closely with the Lighthouse Program, a position in which he manages and supervises five after school programs at local elementary schools.

According to Sacred Heart’s volunteer website, Lighthouse is a state-of-the-art after school educational and recreational program in partnership with community-based organizations and the Bridgeport public schools.

Sacred Heart has partnered with the Lighthouse Program to provide quality after school and summer programming to youth in grades K-8.

“There seems to be a well above average commitment here from students to working in the community and understanding what’s going on in the community. To me was really an exceptional attribute that I was looking for,” said Kaye.

“You have support from everybody. Everybody is a part of this office in many ways.”

“I worked in youth development and educational technology, so international volunteerism has been a big part of what I’ve done,” he said.

Kaye’s active volunteerism drives from a few core qualities that he believes are essential to making a difference.

“Empathy and sympathy are two very important components to volunteerism. Also, openness to understanding why someone is disenfranchised, and reaching out to understanding what are the social justice issues that certain groups face within society,” said Kaye.

Aside from his volunteer service, Kaye enjoys creating pottery using a wheel. He picked up this talent over the past seven years.

“I give away everything,” he said, referring to the thousands of pottery pieces he has created.

Because of his extensive background, those involved with community service at the university level look forward to what he will contribute.

“His experience and past will definitely be beneficial to Sacred Heart and Volunteer Programs,” said senior, Bill Haug, who recently returned from the Mississippi Mission Trip, organized by Volunteer Programs.

Controversial, yet legendary college football coach passes away

Dana Maltese
Staff Reporter

Joe Paterno is a name that is to be remembered. But just how is he to be remembered?

With the recent passing of the former Penn State University head football coach, there has been much controversy surrounding his dismissal last November.

For 60 years, Paterno was known to some as a legendary coach. However, for those unfamiliar with his career, he may only be remembered for the scandal surrounding his former assistant coach Jerry Sandusky.

At Sacred Heart University, some students feel that Paterno, affectionately referred to as “JoePa” by Penn State fans, was a huge influence in college football, and should be remembered as such.

“He will be remembered as a football legend,” said junior Joseph Bacarella. “The seriousness of the child molestation [allegations] will never be completely gone, but once the media is done talking about the charges, and influencing people to hate him, it will almost be forgotten.”

Just months before his death, Paterno’s name saturated the media and the football coach was shown in quite a different light than the public was used to. Although he was never formally charged with anything, the university’s board of trustees held an unanimous vote to fire the long time coach in the wake of the allegations.

Not more than a week later, Paterno’s son announced that his father was being treated for lung cancer. He had been hospitalized since Jan. 13 due to complications, and passed away in the early hours of Sunday, Jan. 22.

Sophomore Vinny Cotto agreed that “JoePa” should be remembered as a legend.

“The student body refers to him as Penn State himself,” said Cotto. “[Paterno] desired not only to teach football, but to teach life lessons.”

Paterno taught his players to have “success with honor,” with the emphasis that with winning, comes respect. He emphasized respect for the game and respect for oneself.

Paterno does not only leave behind his coaching legacy, but he leaves behind the relationships he had with his players. Paterno often opened up his home to students and served as a support system off the field as well.

“For years, his players have had one of the highest graduation rates for collegiate athletes,” said sophomore Melissa McNuffi. “Knowing how much he loved his players and the students of the university, he deserves to have all the information of the scandal come out before people start to question the legacy he left behind.”

His coaching accolades speak for themselves, and based on the tremendous amount of support he received from members of the Penn State community, it is evident he was not just an average employee.

Despite his heroic stature, those kept abreast of the news coverage could not help but to notice how unheralded some of his actions were while the abuse was said to have taken place.

“I think that all Penn State people will remember him as a legend. Especially because they protected him and rallied for him throughout the scandal,” said senior Carl Lia. “However, not doing more about a molestation case is not something to be looking up to.”

Even though Paterno was able to lead his teams to multiple wins and titles, some students think there was a line that was crossed when Paterno did not take more action to inform authorities.

“Even though he told, after nothing was done he should have followed through with it because it was bound to surface at some point,” said Lia. “He needed to tell the truth about something like this right away.”

Other students agree that Paterno should be remembered simply as a coach.

“In my personal opinion, I don’t consider him a role model. He’s just a great college football coach,” said senior Rock Tate.
Focus on the present: SHU’s Meditation Program
Students find peace in non-denominational practice

Dana Lombardo
Staff Reporter

The Meditation program at Sacred Heart University is an organization of members looking to find peace of mind and relief of stress through meditation. Father Jerry Ryle, director of Campus Ministry, introduced the program to Sacred Heart in November 2011, but began his practice in July 2011 at Georgetown University.

Dr. Michael Higgins, director of Sacred Heart University of Catholic Identity, gave Ryle the opportunity to run the meditation group as Higgins observed. After sitting in, Higgins found the experience to be very pleasing, and it was integrated into the university’s event schedule.

The meditation group, which meets Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel of Nativ­ity, serves as a method of relaxation.

“You start out by sitting in a comfortable position, closing your eyes. Then the bell rings, signaling the begin­ning of meditation,” said Kelly Ann Schneider, adminis­trative assistant of Campus Ministry. “This group allows you to not focus on the past or the future, but to just be in the present moment.”

The meditation itself is relatively brief, lasting around 30 minutes, however it is something Fr. Ryle is eager to introduce to students and community neighbors.

“I do meditation every morning for half an hour, and Tuesday and Wednesday nights when we have our group. When I do this each morning, I find there is a place to go throughout my day, and if I am feeling stressed, I know my problems will pass,” Fr. Ryle said.

Many of those who attend are not necessarily of the Christian faith, as the practice is non-­­denomina­tional.

“It is nice because it is not based on religion. Anyone can join,” said Schneider.

Martial Arts amps up for spring

Club teaches students eclectic ways to stay safe

Sophia Destruge
Staff Reporter

“Reho, Gary MARTIAL ARTS TONIGHT! 7:30…”

This is something most Sacred Heart University stu­dents have seen multiple times a day in their university e-mail inboxes.

The Martial Arts Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the William H. Pitt Center at 7:30 p.m. Dur­ing the meeting, which lasts an hour, participants learn the techniques associated with Martial Arts.

“It’s Filipino Kun Tao that we’re doing here. It’s like an eclectic art, which means a combination of a bunch of different arts,” said graduate student and club instructor, Sean Anderson.

Anderson has been practicing martial arts since he was 7 years old.

“We incorporate Judo, Jujitsu, Aikido, traditional Ka­rate, and Muay Thai. It’s a combination of everything,” said Anderson.

In the beginning of the class, the students were paired with one partner. Anderson yells out the command, “one, two, three,” and the students exercise the techniques as they are commanded.

“I love the philosophy of the club and I love knowing how to defend myself.”

—Gabrielle McNamara, Club President

“We do basic choke defenses, head lock defenses, hand grab defenses, throws, and bear hug escapes,” Anderson said.

The type of martial art taught in this club is a practical form of street ready self-defense tactics.

“It’s kind of essential for self defense and it prepares you for real life situations,” said freshman Cristin Anti­masi. “If you were being attacked, you would know how to defend yourself, and that’s pretty awesome.”

Half way through the class, the students stop working with their partners. They are separated into two groups at both ends of the wrestling room.

At this time, the group that Anderson worked with was instructed to put on headgear and gloves. They are then instructed to fight using the techniques and combina­tions they had practiced.

“I love the philosophy of the club, and I love knowing how to defend myself,” said freshman and club president Gabrielle McNamara. “It teaches me lessons everyone should know.”

Students who participated were happy to be there and even extended the length of the hour-long class.

The numbers of students who participate is growing, with 18 in attendance at the second meeting.

“I think it’s a really good club to join because first off, you meet a lot of people that you don’t really hang out with. It’s a good environment where you can learn how to fight but tensions aren’t flying,” said Anti­masi.

“It’s also fun. It’s something consistent to do Mon­days and Thursdays and it’s really good to know if you’re ever in a bad situation.”

She has participated in several of the meditation groups and finds it to be relaxing and a great way to escape stress.

Fr. Ryle explains the three achievements of the medi­tation group as simplicity, stillness, and silence.

According to Fr. Ryle, simplicity gives peace and the reassurance of not feeling preoccupied with thoughts of the past. Stillness is achieved with a body at rest.

“You take your shoes off so your body knows not to go anywhere,” said Fr. Ryle.

Lastly, silence gives allows those in the medi­tative state to keep concentration while repeating the mantra in their heads.

Freshman Brent Middleton explains the experience as one of complete relaxation.

“I really enjoy it,” he said. “I’ll come in, stressed from the day, and I leave feeling peaceful afterwards.”

Middleton, a self-­pronounced regular within the pro­gram, explained how attendance fluctuates between new and familiar faces. On a regular basis, however, he said attendance usually stays within 20 participants.

Those wishing to participate are invited to attend just as they are—there is not dress code. Because of this, many of the meditators believe it to be an easy environment to enter into, particularly during times of high stress.

The program was so relaxing. It was a nice breath between the stress of finals, and Father Jerry makes every­thing really comfortable,” said freshman Stephanie Nick­erson.

When asked if this is something he would continue for the duration of his time at Sacred Heart, Middleton was confident in his answer.

“At least for this semester, it is something I can defi­nitely see myself continuing. I feel I can see myself coming in from a stressful day just to relax.”

SHU student bloggers share their creativity online

Michelle Aptekin
Staff Reporter

Students are ditching their diaries to confide in the billions of people online.

Recently, blogs have become exceptionally popular, even among some Sacred Heart University stu­dents.

Senior Jen Orcutt began blogging about two years ago. According to Orcutt, blogging was the perfect way to articulate her love for writing and photography.

Her page often discusses fitness, healthy eating, college, photography, and other things going on in her every day life.

Orcutt now has 288 followers, some of who provide comments and feedback on all of her posts.

She also has advertisements that appear on the side bar of all which relate to her posts.

“It’s really fun to be able to document my experi­ences in such a creative way that I have the opportu­nity to share with others,” said Orcutt.

Carly Bergin, also a senior at Sacred Heart, began blogging under different circumstances for class cred­it. Her new hobby began while taking a social media class, offered by the department of communication.

Once enrolled, she was required to blog on a weekly basis about an assigned topic. Members of the class followed, commenting and providing feedback for the duration of the semester.

Although required for class, Bergin began to find her niche as a blogger. She maintains her page, which features articles and photos, as well as her own thoughts.

Other students echo Bergin’s sentiment.

Junior Mike Innella now blogs about anything he finds of interest on the Internet and says his followers are growing.

“I had to use a photo blog for one of my classes, it’s a great way to share your work,” said Innella.
The Sacred Heart University Pioneer men’s basketball team snapped a two-game winning streak by dropping a pair at home last week. On Thursday, Sacred Heart was soundly defeated by the Wagner Seahawks, 73-54, and lost a double overtime contest on Saturday, 81-80, to the Mount St. Mary’s Mountaineers.

Against Northeast Conference foe Wagner (17-4, 8-2 NEC), who is ranked 24 in the Mid-Major Top 25, Sacred Heart (10-13, 4-6 NEC) led 4-3 early before the Seahawks ripped off a 15-1 run, never looking back.

The NEC’s leading scorer, red-shirt junior forward Shane Gibson, pulled the Pioneers within four after rattling off nine consecutive points. The Seahawks extended the lead to 10, but freshman guard Phil Gaetano reduced the deficit to seven as he nailed two free throws.

“Phil is playing great as a freshman,” said Gibson. “He has great composure and is a true point guard.”

Wagner shot out of the gate in the second half, quickly extending the lead with their three-point shooting.

The Seahawks shot 11-21 (52.4 percent) from beyond the arc, including seven threes by senior guard Tyler Murray, accounting for all 21 of his points.

This was in sharp contrast to Sacred Heart, who only shot 3-20 (15 percent) from downtown. The Pioneers came into the evening first in the NEC in 3-point percentage (38.1 percent) and 43rd in the nation.

Gibson would get Sacred Heart within 11, but Wagner closed the game with an 8-0 run.

“Wagner has nice balance,” said Head Coach Dave Bike. “They did what they had to do. I thought we battled them on the boards. It’s just that you can’t give it away.”

The Pioneers gave it away 19 times, leading to 25 Seahawk points. “It was a complete team effort,” said red-shirt junior forward Nick Greenbacker, “Everyone was turning it over. It’s hard to win when you turn it over that many times.”

Greenbacker, the team’s captain, scored 14 points and grabbed seven rebounds, raising his season averages of 2.9 and 2.0, respectively. Gibson ended the game with 20 points, his 14th 20-point game of the season.

For Gibson, 20 points was just a warm-up act.

On Saturday, NEC opponent Mount St. Mary’s (5-16, 3-7 NEC) visited Fairfield to cap Sacred Heart’s four-game home stand.

In front of 900 fans at the William H. Pitt Center, Gibson dropped a career-high 41 points in a one-point double overtime loss to the Mount.

Gibson started hot, scoring 10 of the Pioneers’ first 12 points. However, the Mountaineers closed the half on a 10-3 run, giving the Mount a 36-29 lead at the break.

Coming out of the locker room, the Mountaineers took a 12-point advantage, the largest of the game. Sacred Heart chipped away to grab a 52-51 lead with 8:41 left when senior forward Stan Dulaire nailed two free throws.

The Mount then built a five-point lead and extended it to eight when freshman forward Kelvin Parker hit a three with 2:07 remaining.

The Pioneers fought back, and trailing 70-67 with 19 seconds left, Gibson got the ball, stepped back and nailed the game-tying three. The Mountaineers missed both last effort shots, sending the game to overtime.

After a quiet first overtime where both teams scored six points and Mount sophomore guard Julian Norfleet missed a jumper at the buzzer, the game entered its second extra five minutes.

Sacred Heart took an 80-76 lead, but went cold, finishing the game 0-3 from the field.

With six seconds left and down by one, Mountaineer sophomore guard Josh Castellanos, who finished with a team-high 19 points, got to the rim and was fouled by Gaetano. Castellanos converted both free throws, setting the stage for Gibson again.

This time, Gibson’s three was blocked and red-shirt-junior forward Justin Swidowski grabbed the rebound but missed the tip-in, as the Pioneers fell to 0-2 in overtime games this season.

“Defensively, we have proven to succeed in many instances,” said Gibson. “But offensively, we need to contain the opposition to reduce their scoring opportunities. If we are not going to win scoring 80 points, something else has to happen. That is a lot of points, so I don’t think scoring more is the problem.”

This week, Sacred Heart returns to the road, traveling to the Multipurpose Activity Center in West Long Branch, N.J. to take on the Monmouth University Hawks and the Rothman Center in Teaneck, N.J. to play the Fairleigh Dickinson University Knights.

Staff reporter Konstantine DeKanes contributed to this article.
After suffering the worst loss as a Division I program against Quinnipiac, a 71-37 point drubbing, the Sacred Heart women's basketball team needed to get back on the right track.

That is just what they did last Saturday afternoon when the Hawks pulled off a 2-54 win over Mount St. Mary's in the William H. Pitt Center.

"It was definitely good to bounce back from our loss to Quinnipiac," said senior captain Callan Taylor. "It is not only important for our confidence, but shows that we have resiliency. We just need to keep it going now and let that loss keep pushing us to play harder."

The Pioneers used a balanced scoring attack to help take down "The Mount."

Kiley Evans, a junior, scored a season-high 19 points off the bench to lead the Pioneers. Evans also recorded four steals.

Taylor contributed 18 points and 10 rebounds, which was good for the 50th double-double of her career.

Sophomore forward Blaire Kozlowski netted 12 points, including nine from behind the three-point line.

Sacred Heart shot just under 50 percent from the field in the first half (48.3 percent) to take a 36-23 lead at the half.

The Pioneers cooled off in the second half, only shooting 34.5 percent, but were still able to hold win by a comfortable margin.

Taylor's 50th double-double was one of two milestones she recorded this past week.

In the loss to Quinnipiac, Taylor recorded the 1,000th rebound of her career. She was the second Pioneer in history to record such a milestone.

Despite all her accolades on the court, Taylor just wants to win games.

"I never think about those things, especially when I am playing," Taylor said. "I just focus on playing hard and doing what the team needs for me in order for us to be successful. That is my main goal -- to win games."

The Pioneers remained on the winning track Monday night as Sacred Heart defeated Wagner 67-57 at the Pitt Center.

SACREDHEART

Taylor records 50th double-double of her career in win

Sacred Heart forced 24 Wagner turnovers, which led to 19 Pioneer points.

The Pioneers remain in first place in the Northeast Conference with a 9-1 conference record. Quinnipiac is second in the standings, one game behind the Pioneers.

Sacred Heart is taking a one-game at a time approach the rest of the year.

"Exactly, we're just taking it one game at a time," Taylor said. "We are not looking ahead or looking at how other teams are doing, but just looking at ourselves and how to improve both as a team and individually every game. In the end the team that does that will be the last team standing."

Sacred Heart will take to the road this weekend traveling to Fairleigh Dickinson Saturday afternoon, and then to Monmouth next Monday night.

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**SIDOR AND TSIPOURAS NAMED PRESEASON ALL-NEC**

Annemarie A'Hearn
Staff Reporter

On the heels of a 2011 NEC Championship season, the Pioneer's softball team looks to repeat, coming off the momentum of a season which ended in a regional tournament game against No. 16 Texas A&M.

The Pioneer's feel they have the tools to do it. They aren't alone in recognizing their talents.

Junior Nicole Sidor and senior Liz Tsipouras were named to the College Sports Madness Preseason All-Northeast Conference First Team.

"It was very exciting for the team to win the NEC tournament last year," said Sidor. "We practiced hard all year and we were able to come together strong when we needed it the most. It was an awesome experience to play against LSU and Texas A&M and it is a challenge that the team definitely wants to face again this season."

The hard work put in at practice has paid off over the years as this is not the first time these two ladies have been acknowledged for their achievements on and off the field.

Sidor, named All-Northeast Conference First Team at the utility position in 2011, also earned NFCA academic All-American accolades, was a one time Academic/NFCA Pitcher of the Week Award winner. She finished the season with a .325 batting average and recorded 22 RBIs.

Tsipouras' achievements include being selected to NFCA All-Region Team, earning NFCA Academic All-America honors, and capturing CoSIDA/Capital One Aca-
**HOCKEY SPLITS WITH A.I.C. IN WEEKEND SERIES**

**Kathryn Cooper**

**Staff Reporter**

It's been a tough season for the Sacred Heart men's hockey team, but coach C.J. Maratolo is doing everything he can to keep his player's heads held high, and the 4-2 victory at American International College (AIC) on Friday night showed it all.

On Friday night both teams came out with a lot of intensity in the first period. However, just three minutes into the first period, senior forward Anthony Yelovich was charged with a holding penalty.

The Pioneers killed it off, but a little over two minutes later, sophomore forward Torin Snydeman was charged with a high sticking penalty. This was yet another penalty the Pioneers had to kill. Penalty-wise, the Pioneers were having a rough start and needed to stay out of the box.

The intensity of the game continued through and with 9:30 left in the period sophomore forward Nick Sandler of AIC was charged with a hooking penalty. This gave the Pioneers a chance to take over on the power play.

Thirty seconds into the power play, freshman forward Drew George scored to get the Pioneers on the board, ripping a one-timer off the cross-bar in and making it 1-0 on a goal that was reviewed.

"Ging (Matt Gingera) just made a great pass up the wall and found me and I just kind of closed my eyes and shot the puck and it went in," said George.

As the buzzer sounded the Pioneers were holding on to their 1-0 lead at the end of the first period.

The second period started with the same intensity as the first with goalie and rover Steven Legatto making saves left and right, as well as the Pioneers gaining many scoring opportunities.

With 8:05 left in the second period, senior forward Anthony Yelovich received a stretch pass from junior defensemen Jordan Ciccarello. At this point Yelovich was on a breakaway and roofed it to give the Pioneers a 2-0 lead.

Just 1-1/2 seconds into the third period, sophomore forward Nick Sandler made it 3-0 for the Pioneers. Moving through open ice, Sandler was able to cut off AIC defensemen Steven Hordnawr who had himself a breakaway goal off of a wrist shot.

Not only did being up 3-0 give the Pioneers the confidence in this game, but it also kept goalies以上的 score down as well. The game came from Legatto with 12:25 left in the third on a high back hander from Adam Pleskach.

"Our goalie Legatto (Legato), played unbelievably for us, and he was probably the difference maker in our game tonight," said junior forward and captain Eric DeLong.

AIC didn't give up though and eventually stole one from Legatto when Matt Canady scored to make it 3-1.

However the Pioneers fought back to regain that goal lead when an AIC defender fell down at the blue line giving yet another Pioneer forward a breakaway opportunity. This time it was sophomore Chad Filipau who scored through the five hole making it 4-2. This goal assisted with forwards Ketchum and Chris Bailer with 2:35 left in the third.

With just 2:00 left in the game, the Pioneers decided to call a timeout. During this time AIC decided to pull their goal- ie, while coach Maratolo had a few words for his players.

"He just needed to take care of the puck and play our game," Maratolo told his team.

Play resumed and with 16 seconds left in the period the Pioneers were charged with a hooking penalty and being called off the clock. This gave AIC an opportunity to make one final play, and that's exactly what happened, when Chris Markewicz got a quick shot right off the facoff with 11 seconds left in the game.

In the end, it was the Pioneers who came on top with the 4-2 victory and coach Maratolo couldn't have been happier.

"I expected them to come out here tonight and put forth the type of effort they did. We've been through a lot this year and I could be more proud of them," Maratolo said.

Saturday night's game at the Milford Ice Pavilion started with the same intensity the game at AIC on Friday. The Pioneers were taking shots and getting lots of chances and Legatto was also making some great saves.

Unlike the game on Friday night, this game was much more physical, had a lot more penalties and more rough stuff in front of the nets. This one ended with a 3-2 come-from-behind victory for the AIC Yellow Jackets, when Adam Pleskach scored his second goal of the night at 2:37 in overtime.

"I was happy with the effort tonight. Though the intensity was where it needed to be, we are not happy with the results. But we battled," said Maratolo.

Penalties were yet again a problem for the Pioneers and may have even cost them the win.

"Penalties were definitely a big factor in how this game turned out. Moving forward we must take avoidable penalties," said Maratolo.

About eight minutes into the first period, freshman forward Brian Sheehan received a long pass from junior defensemen Mitchell Stretch. Sheehan took the puck a few steps past the blue line and ripped it top shelf to give the Pioneers a 1-0 lead.

A few minutes later, Ketchum had a breakaway but was denied by AIC goalstecher Ben Meisner. The Pioneers kept pushing and with 5:14 left in the first period, freshman defensemen Jared Eng passed it to George who blasted it from the near half boards on the power play and scored to give the Pioneers a 2-0 lead.

The Pioneers had confidence on the ice and it showed, but the events that occurred in the third period changed the whole mindset of the game.

**SACRED HEART PREPARES FOR SHUJER XLVI**

**Dan Otzel**

**Asst. Sports Editor**

When New York Giants kicker Lawrence Tyens sent a 31-yard overtime field goal sailing through the yellow uprights at 11:19 of overtime, the New York Giants were victorious as they defeated the New England Patriots of their seventh Super Bowl title.

Asst. Sports Editor

Kathryn Cooper

Bailer with 2:35 left to play in the third.

This time it was sophomore Chad Filipau who scored to tie the game, and with 16 seconds left in the period the Pioneers were charged with a hooking penalty and being called off the clock. This gave AIC an opportunity to make one final play, and that's exactly what happened, when Chris Markewicz got a quick shot right off the facoff with 11 seconds left in the game.

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**Just ask Dr. Sid Gottlieb, a CMS professor.**

"I've followed the Giants since I was a kid," said Gottlieb, "and I'll be rooting for them big time in the Super Bowl."

Gottlieb will watch the game on his big screen with his friends and lots of food. For those students sans a house, big screen, or lots of food, Sacred Heart is offering various Super Bowl Sunday options. Chartwells is featuring Super Bowl menus and Residential Life is organizing Super Bowl activities.

"From the Residential Life area, most of the halls are doing some kind of community-viewing party, bringing everyone together in the common spaces to watch on one of the TVs," said Joel Quin- tong, director of residential life.

Students can check with their resident hall director to find out if a program has been scheduled in the hall.

In halls with no scheduled events, students can work with their Residential Life staff to put something together, said Quin- tong.

Still, there are other options for female students.

In Elizabeth Ann Seton Hall, female students can work with their Residential Life staff to put something together, said Quin- tong.

"This is true for senior Caroline Cam­po. Campo is part of a group of three students chosen as interns to accompany Brian Throne, an adjunct instructor in the department of communication and media studies (CMS), to Lucas Oil Stadium to work with the NFL Core Group, assisting with pre-production and game day produc­ tion. They will document their experience in a short video when they return home.

"I was in complete shock," said Campo of her selection. "Interning at the Super Bowl is an opportunity of a lifetime. I am so excited, lucky, thankful, and, just over­ all, ecstatic."

Super Bowl connections, expectations, and rooting interests are not relegated solely to Sacred Heart students.
Rossi represents SHU in Casino Del Sol All-Star Game

Blake Campbell
Sports Editor

Rich Rossi took the field in an all-familiar Sacred Heart red and white helmet. Surrounded by some of the nation's best talent, the 6'5, 225 lb Pioneer Alum trotted on the field understanding the significance of the audition in which he was about to partake.

"I went down to this game as if it were the biggest interviews of my life," said Rossi. "I brought my work ethic, character, competitiveness, and desire built by playing this great game and I believe I delivered."

A stand out player at Riverside High School in Taylor, Pa., Rossi has found success with immense support from the people around him.

Rossi was named captain of his high school football team. As a senior, he won offensive MVP, All-Conference and All-Regional recognitions. He also participated in the East-West Pennsylvania All-Star game that year.

"I had many accolades throughout my high school career and was very fortunate to have great teammates, coaches, teachers, and family to help achieve my success," said Rossi.

Such success isn't earned exclusively on the field. Preparations off the field – in the classroom, weight room, and film room – all factor in to determine how much of his full potential a player will actually reach.

"His work ethic was unparalleled. He'd do whatever it takes to be as good as he can be. Lifting, running, running routes, staying after practice, watching film; he's just exemplary," said Sacred Heart head football coach Paul Gorham.

In the case of Rossi, this working mind set has consistently proved to be the difference maker in reaching for new heights.

"Put in the work both on and off the field and everything else kind of take care of itself," said Rossi.

After accumulating awards and accolades throughout his high school career, Rossi shifted his focus to building on that success, moving on to the next level.

"I went through a coaching change after my junior year and felt that I might have slipped under the recruiting radar with most schools, leading to my decision to attend Milford Academy after high school." Rossi excelled at Milford Academy on route to becoming a Rivals Top-50 Prep player.

With several larger Division I schools showing interest in Rossi, he chose to attend Sacred Heart after a personal visit from the head coach, Paul Gorham.

"Having Coach Gorham come to visit me at my house to express their interest and ability to become an immediate impact, and my comfort feeling interacting with coaches, players and professors during my initial visit helped secure my decision to attend SHU," said Rossi.

Gorham and the staff saw promise in Rossi, who was not a traditional tight end or wide receiver.

"We watched a bunch of his high school tapes. We recognized his speed and then the combination of things both his high school and prep school coaches said as far as his work ethic and strength in the weight room pushed us over the top in recruiting him," said Gorham.

His character and determination proved to be a large factor in the final decision whether or not to recruit him.

"We recruited Rich because he was an outstanding young man that was strong academically, a good football player and we thought that he was just hitting his stride and that the future would be bright for him," said Gardner.

Rossi quickly learned that the competition level would rise tremendously from high school to prep school to college.

"There are great athletes at every position," said Rossi. "It is a 52-week commitment and to narrow the gap between you and your competition you must have an intense work ethic."

With Rossi's hard work and determination, he found ways to narrow that gap. He dedicated himself to the weight room and was pound for pound one of the strongest kids on the team. He benchpressed 390 pounds, squatted 510 pounds, and power cleaned 355 pounds.

"To be the best, you never stop working," said Rossi.

"You never stop improving. From fundamentals to game preparation, I’m constantly looking to improve in all aspects of my game."

There were weight room numbers translated into success on the field both at the tight end and wide receiver position.

"I believe it shows my versatility," said Rossi. "By moving to tight end my junior year, the coaches were able to create a lot of mismatches. We always had a great group of skill players and based on our offense, it created another threat to the defense."

He finished his career at Sacred Heart with 1,759 yards and 14 touchdowns on 155 receptions. He was selected to represent Sacred Heart in the Casino Del Sol All-Star Game. The game features top athletes from all of Division I football.

His impact on the team was not limited to statistics. Rossi brought a work ethic that was rivaled by few. This surely factored in to his teammates’ decision to elect him captain for his senior year.

"He has a quiet presence. He’s not a screamer. Though he was a captain, it was more for his work ethic really than his voice. He just went out and did it the right way everyday and I think the kids respected that," said Gorham.

His collegiate success was not limited to work done on the field. His psychology and history major, he’s maintained a 3.0 GPA while balancing the responsibilities of being a Division I athlete.

"Rich was a very dependable player. You could always count on him to do the right thing on and off the field. He was always on time and always did his best to represent himself and the program in a positive manner," said Gardner.

Rossi understands the magnitude of his accomplishments, not only on a personal level but also for the program he represented.

"It was an honor to represent SHU. To be considered as one of the nation’s best players and participate in this prestigious game was an honor," said Rossi.

Coming from a smaller Division I school, it would have been easy for Rossi to be overlooked. Being the competitor that he is, he went into the game determined to make a name for himself.

"I was looking forward to competing. I was there for an opportunity to show what I can do in front of NFL scouts. I felt that I had a great week of practice and took advantage of my opportunities," said Rossi.

Rossi did just that, finishing the game with two receptions for 38 yards. The most important reception came when Rossi caught a pass from LSU QB Jarrett Lee in the fourth quarter to take a 21-17 lead.

"In a game like this, you have to take advantage of your opportunities and I think that I did," said Rossi.

Rossi plans on taking his career to the next level. He’s hired an agent to help with the marketing aspect while he continues to train hard for his dreams.

His former coaching staff believes there is an opportunity for him to play at the next level as well.

"He’s going have to do everything that a non-drafted guy or a late draft guy would. He played special teams for us. He has some versatility and those guys that are 49, 50, 51 on NFL rosters have to be special teams guys and not be afraid to do the dirty work that way," said Gorham.

Still, it is his hard work and dedication that will ultimately be the deciding factor as to whether or not he will be picked up by a team. Based on his past, it is not expected that this will be a problem in the future.

"Playing at the next level is so difficult because everything you do – or do not – is analyzed and evaluated," said Gardner. "Rich is likeable, hard working, intelligent, has strong character, and I don’t talk a lot or draw unwanted attention to himself. Because of those characteristics and the fact that he is a good football player he should have a shot of one day playing at the next level."

Playing and doing well in the all-star game has put Rossi on the path to success.

"I have received some very good feedback from several teams since the all-star game. Right now, there is a small window of opportunity and my goal is to take advantage of it and to play at the next level," said Rossi.

"I am continuing to train for the combine and pro day and see where this road will lead me."

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Gibson wins NEC Player of the Week

Shane Gibson (#25), a red-shirt junior earned his second NEC Player of the Week Award this past week. He scored 41 points in the Pioneers loss to Mount St. Mary's last Saturday.