Lady Pioneers feel the sting in Chapel Hill

Ryan Hannable
Editor-in-Chief

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — After an Alexis Campbell layup just over five minutes into the game the No. 13 seeded Sacred Heart University Pioneers went up 9-7 over the No. 4 seeded Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets in the first round of the NCAA Tournament Sunday afternoon.

A potential upset was on the minds for the 1,139 fans at Carmichael Arena on the campus of the University of North Carolina, but after Campbell’s basket, things started to unravel for the Pioneers, and in the end the Yellow Jackets who rolled to a 76-50 win.

“It wasn’t one of our better games, but I thought Georgia Tech did a terrific job of taking us out of what we wanted to do,” Sacred Heart head coach Ed Swanson said. “We knew it was going to be 40 minutes of tough focused basketball. We let up on some stretches.”

The Yellow Jackets used a full court press against the Pioneers the majority of the game.

In the early stages the Pioneers had no problems breaking it, but struggled with their half court sets, despite jumping out to the 9-7 lead.

“Early on I was excited about the way we were attacking the press, but on the back end it took us so long to get into our offense,” Swanson said. “We were dribbling the ball for four or five seconds. We didn’t get into our offense. It was more in the half court that we couldn’t get in rhythm and it dictated our offense.”

Things started going downhill at the 13:09 mark in the first half when reigning NEC Player of the Year Cal- lan Taylor picked up her second foul, and was forced to the bench.

After sitting for just over four minutes, the Yellow Jackets went on an 11-1 run and Swanson was forced to insert Taylor back in the game.

Senior Javier Vidal believes that the name is only right, given McMahon’s contributions to Sacred Heart.

“McMahon donated money. She should be recognized for her contribution,” said Vidal. “Personally, I don’t think it’s the most appealing name for the building, but she made a significant contribution.”

According to a Sacred Heart press release, McMahon is recognized as a respected business executive. She helped build WWE, which is headquartered in Stamford, Conn.

WWE began as a 13-person business, but it quickly grew into an international company with more than 600 employees. In 2007 she was named a “Wonder Woman” by Multichannel News, for her accomplishments as the chief executive officer of WWE.

McMahon has been involved with many philanthropic works. She led WWE’s nationwide Reading Challenge in partnership with the youth division of the American Library Association. She was appointed to the National Advisory Council in 2005, a year after WWE was awarded its highest honor from Make-A-Wish Foundation. McMahon served on the board of a nonprofit organization, Close Up Foundation, which encourages the youth to participate in democracy.

She was also appointed to the Connecticut Board of Education by Governor Jodi Rell.

McMahon was the Republican nominee for one of Connecticut’s U.S. Senate seats in 2010. She was defeated by former Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal. She is running for the Senate again this year, attempting to replace the retiring Chris Dodd.

See McMAHON on page 3...
FDA clashes with tobacco companies over label images

RoseMaria Hatch  
Staff Reporter

A new battle is taking place between tobacco companies and the U.S. government. This one concerns a planned regulation by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that would require cigarette makers to label their products with images displaying the effects of smoking.

According to Reuters, U.S. District Judge Richard Leon agreed with the tobacco companies. He ruled against the FDA’s requirement, which would take effect this September, on the grounds that it violates free speech rights under the U.S. Constitution.

Leon also made his ruling based on his belief that the labels are too big to be constitutional, and that the government has other options to discourage consumers from smoking.

President Barack Obama’s administration has contested the decision, filing an appeal with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. According to the Business Journal, the FDA has also appealed.

Several students disagree with the ruling. Freshman Scott Harnes thinks it is necessary to display the warning labels.

“I’ve always been against smoking,” he said. “People need to see what will happen to them if they don’t quit. Sometimes a visual is better than just words.”

Junior Deanna Stocker agrees that the images would be more effective than a simple text warning.

“By placing images on boxes — even if they are part of an outside wrapper that can be removed — cigarette companies are giving far better disclosure about the effects of their product than a small blurb of text on the side of a box,” she said.

The images, which represent the first change in U.S. cigarette warning labels in 25 years, include pictures of diseased lungs, rotting teeth, and dead bodies. There are nine images in total.

For some students, placing the images on cigarette packages is the only way to properly convey the health hazards of smoking.

“The companies that filed suit against the FDA have argued that they should not be required to engage in advocacy against their own products, which are legal. They also claim that it would cost them millions of dollars to comply with the new policy, and that the graphics offer no information that cannot be provided through the warnings that already appear on labels. Still, some students argue that the existing warning from the U.S. Surgeon General does not go far enough.

“I think that people are aware of the risks of smoking, but companies do target teens,” said senior Dorothy Moulton. “So I think that there should be a label of some sort on the product, so teens know that cigarettes can be fatal.”

A district judge ruled that the FDA does not have the right to show graphic images on cigarette boxes.
Maresco describes the Christian market

Kerry Browne
Staff Reporter

Dr. Peter Maresco, professor of marketing at Sacred Heart, presented the final Academic Research Showcase on Wednesday, March 14. The topic was "The Expanding Christian Marketplace," which concerns the increase of products, businesses, and entire industries dedicated to serving the demands of Christian consumers.

Maresco discovered this industry while shopping for gospel music in a Christian bookstore. He realized that the store was beginning to offer more miscellaneous Christian-themed items. Maresco asked himself, "Who buys these things?"

This question initiated the research that would eventually become Maresco's book, "The Business of Christianity."

Maresco defined the principles of marketing, the most basic of which states that a market can only exist if there is a demand for it. "It is very difficult to find businesses that cater to find these customers," he said.

Christians appear to reward the businesses that make the attempt. Maresco said that they want to "support the businesses that understand and respect them."

There are a wide variety of Christian products, businesses, and industries. These include Christian wrestling organizations, TestaMints, and Jesus-themed duct tape. Some audience members laughed at the description of the items. Maresco responded to the laughter by saying that he did not intend to poke fun at manufacturers or customers.

"This is not an indictment, just a presentation of what is available to this demographic," he said.

Other Christian businesses make clear they are not only trying to create markets, but also extend their Christian beliefs to their businesses. There are businesses that offer "Christian-only" services such as Christian dating sites and "virtual churches."

Maresco made a point to illustrate that there is at least one business that lives up to principles that it would be in the business' self-interest not to follow. In an industry in which businesses are encouraged to be open 24 hours a day, Chick-fil-A is actually closed on Sundays.

After the lecture, Prof. Sean Heffron commented that Christian entities might be trying to market their religion as contemporary, particularly with its use of "Today" coupled with Christian themes.

The increasing volume of Christian-themed items intrigued many of those in attendance.

"I personally wouldn't buy the products," said freshman Brent Middleton. "But I would definitely go to the store where they're being sold so I could say, 'Wow, this is actually real.'"

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Dr. Peter Maresco speaks about the wide variety of Christian-themed items.

Completed student commons to bear McMahon’s name

...CONTINUED from page 1.

According to the press release, McMahon retired as the chief executive officer of WWE in 2009. She has been actively involved with her family foundation, which promotes entrepreneurship and education.

The naming of the building also recognizes McMahon’s longtime interest in the students and alumni of Sacred Heart.

"If I can set any kind of example for them, I have more than done my job," McMahon said in the release. "My reward has always been to see successful SHU alumni making that mark, but it means a lot that the university has chosen to honor me in this way."

As students wait for the project to be completed, Petillo offers encouraging words.

"The team responsible for this building spent many hours considering the needs of a today's students," he said. "We hope that we have succeeded and that all of you will be just as excited about this addition to our campus as we are."
Chalykoff named dean of business school

Mike Peterson
News Editor

In an academic year filled with change, Sacred Heart University has made yet another addition. John Chalykoff, Ph.D. will be the new dean of the John F. Welch College of Business, effective July 1.

Chalykoff offers more than 35 years of practice in education, as well as a unique perspective on business. Since 2001, he has served as the associate dean of Boston University.

One of the main reasons why Chalykoff was selected for the position is his emphasis on the international aspect of business.

"Chalykoff is big on international business and marketing," said President John J. Petillo. "He is Canadian by upbringing, and very knowledgeable about the exchange of business and marketing," said President John J. Petillo. "The challenges with the school are enhancement and expansion."

Working with the school's faculty members is another integral part of Chalykoff's position. "One of the reasons why Chalykoff was hired is because he has a great collaborative spirit," said Petillo. "Connecting with the faculty is a very critical and transparent part of the job."

Like any incoming administrator, Chalykoff will experience a transition process when he arrives. This involves interacting with colleagues and understanding the key functions of the school.

"Any incoming person gets to know the people who work for him or her," said Petillo. "Chalykoff will get to know the culture here, as well as the players he has to interact with."

Chalykoff's history and experience should make his transition process relatively smooth, and allow him to focus on his work as soon as possible.

"With someone as experienced as he, the learning curve will be short," said Petillo. "He has a good jump start on the process."

Bassett helps students with specially designed vests

Julianne O'Hara
Staff Reporter

Karen Bassett, a student in the occupational therapy Master’s program at Sacred Heart University, is making weighted vests and keypads to help students with sensory processing disorders focus better in school.

The students receiving the vests have been diagnosed with various disorders including attention-deficit disorder, autism, sensory processing disorders, and many others. People with these disorders often struggle to focus. "Weighted vests are often used as part of an occupational therapy plan," said Christine Fitzsimmons of Constellation Health Services. "The concept is based on providing deep pressure input by wearing the weighted vests for different times during the day. That input can help a child focus and pay attention to activities in class."

Bassett got the idea to start making these vests while she was performing fieldwork in the Stamford public school system, and saw a shortage of vests for children. In one instance, there was only one vest for an entire school.

"Stamford is quite a large district, with 12 elementary schools alone," she said. "I started to think this was insufficient, and I offered to make some. My supervisor was thrilled."

While in the Stamford school district, Bassett came across a young boy who had been wearing a vest for a long time. "He couldn’t wear them around the halls because of the way they looked."

"The idea was born to make cool-looking, weighted vests that kids will like to wear or even want to wear," said Bassett.

Bassett is aiming to disguise the vests' therapeutic purpose by using fabrics such as camouflage, pink floral, and denim.

This way, she hopes to make the vests more stylish for children of both genders to wear.

The lap pads that Bassett is making are intended to be used for the same reason. They are all rectangular, about 8 by 14 inches, and filled with rice to weigh them down.

Bassett is not going alone with her sewing. She has enlisted eight other OT students to help her out with the vests, which will be sold for somewhere between $50 and $100.

Although Bassett had hoped to incorporate the vests into the occupational training program, students may have to continue with it on their own time.

"The intention was to provide this community service immediately due to need, and hope that we might be able to continue doing so," said Bassett. "In reality, however, the demands of the SHU OT graduate program do not often allow for this type of dedicated time in addition to fieldwork and other coursework."

Thanks to Bassett and her team of sewers, students will be able to focus inside and outside of the classrooms with a new style of vests.

"Service projects are an essential element of the Student Occupational Therapy Association at Sacred Heart," Bassett said. "It’s really a wonderful thing when immediate need is met by desire to help."

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Springing Forward into Warm-Weather Activities

With the recent weather trends toward warmth and sunshine, many of us are eager to get some extra time outside away from our desks and computers. Here are some tips for getting back to some of these activities safely and to decrease the likelihood of injury:

### Running
- Build up distance/time running gradually to avoid overstretching your muscles and joints (even if you’ve been running on the treadmill all winter!)
- Begin running on relatively flat terrain at a comfortable speed
- Cross-train. Running every day is an easy way to get hurt. Go for a hike, bike, paddle or play outdoor games with friends to decrease the likelihood of overuse injury

### Cycling
- Spring is tune-up time. Make sure your bike is well-tuned before you head out on the road (this includes cable adjustments, brake checks, tire checks, etc) to avoid a mishap while on the road.
- Wear bright colors and consider lights. Wearing bright clothes seems like a no-brainer but many people don’t consider lights to improve visibility, even when riding in full daylight. Many local roads have a lot of tree cover which can make cyclists less visible. Lights are also a “must-have” for riding any time near dawn or dusk when visibility is most limited.
- Obey the rules of the road. Cyclists are bound to the same traffic laws as motorists. If you are unsure as to these rules, check out the CT bicycle laws through the CT Department of Transportation website.

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Do email blasts promote school spirit?

*Students react to the excessive global emails received on a daily basis*

Erin Marley
*Staff Reporter*

When sophomore Elise Lorenz receives an email pertaining to an event on campus, she almost always ignores it. “As soon as I get an email sent to my phone from Sacred Heart, I delete it without reading it,” Lorenz said.

Just about every day, the Sacred Heart University community receives several emails urging students and faculty to attend an event, whether or not it relates to something that they are interested in.

Some students say it gets frustrating having to sort through which ones you should read, and many times students simply give up on reading them altogether.

“I usually just look at the title and then delete it,” said freshman Ian Cotterell.

As a result, some students agreed that due to the number of irrelevant emails sent in a day, it becomes habit to delete them without actually opening them.

“I get so many emails a day that I don’t want to read because they have nothing to do with me,” said sophomore Carline Briffett. “If there is an event that I am interested in, chances are I already know about it. I may need an email to remind me, but the number of emails that SHU sends out is a bit much.”

Because of the large volume of emails sent out daily, many students said that it has become routine to only skim them and read a select few.

Senior Kristin Iovino said it best. “The only event emails that I read are the ones that involve me,” she said.

More recently, Sacred Heart has been trying to increase school spirit and involvement with their emails. They have sent out numerous emails encouraging the community to attend athletic events, especially the women’s basketball playoff games.

Coach Ed Swanson sent out emails before each of the women’s basketball playoff games in hopes of attracting a large crowd. Not only did Swanson personally invite the entire Sacred Heart community, but he also gave the incentive of free pizza to all of the fans.

“I just really feel that home court advantage isn’t about the baskets or the court. Home court advantage is about the people and the environment in which you force your opponent to play,” said Swanson.

Not only did Swanson send an email out, but the seniors on the team also made a YouTube video asking fans to come out and support the team.

The emails and multimedia seem to have worked because the Pitt Center was packed with fans to watch the team win the NEC Championship.

The number of fans who attend the women’s basketball games come to an average of 506. Yet, the championship game saw more than double that figure, drawing in a capacity of 1,344.

While many of the emails sent in hopes of attracting the students to specific events, many students said that there are more effective means of reaching the community than through email.

“Sacred Heart sends out so many global emails about all sorts of things,” said Briffett. “I think word of mouth is the best way to spread what is going on in the community. When I hear people talking about something, it encourages me to go more than any email that I get.”

Senior Amanda Rivera soaks up the sun and enjoys the warm weather.

Amanda Rivera
*Contributing Writer*

If Connecticut weather were a person, it would be a female going through PMS.

Let’s prepare ourselves for this emotional breakdown. First off, she never stays the same for long. One moment, Connecticut’s heating up with fury, the next, she’s flooding us with tons of teary rain. Finally and without warning, she just gets to the point where she turns cold and frigid.

With that said, you should probably hide inside until you know what she is going to do next. The best way to prepare for this emotional weather mess is to know her next step.

1. Personally, have become best friends with life for her gossipy friend Weather.com. I check out the hourly weather update, and she gives me the full scoop on what Connecticut is doing (usually in a simplified form, with tons of pictures of suns and clouds and stuff like that). But considering the source, it makes sense.

So there has been this age old adage roaming around. I’m guessing some dude who is a cousin of C’finch wanted to get in on the stuff. I don’t blame him.

Anyway, the adage kind of goes like this: when you don’t know what the weather is going to be like, dress in layers.

Brilliance. Who would have thought of such a thing? You see, most people would have thought of it as common sense, but when you see someone in shorts during the dead cold of winter, sometimes you have to question if everyone else has this magical ability.

Now, with the weather warming up – at least for right now, not sure if Connecticut is going to go through another mood swing – the clothing switches from winter wear right into summer-wear with nothing in between. Have you noticed that it could be the first warm day and people are already wearing shorts, skirts, and flip-flops?

It’s like they’ve been waiting in their room all winter with their shorts and flip-flops on, anticipating a warmer day.

When that day comes, they run out of Sentry and Merton, screaming, “I’m free!” Not to put anyone down but I’ve noticed TONS of freshman do this.

So with all that said, rule of thumb is to dress in layers and to avoid any storms that Connecticut will throw your way.

“Today is doing (usually in a simplified form, with tons of pictures of suns and clouds and stuff like that). But considering the source, it makes sense.”

The Spectrum/Samantha Purcell

Emails are sent out in hopes of attracting students to events on campus.
Restaurants' report cards show regulation grades

Dan Miller
Staff Reporter

Every year there are about 24,000 restaurants that are inspected in New York City.

The inspections are unannounced and occur to make sure the restaurants are in compliance with the city's and the state's food safety regulations. After being inspected, restaurants receive a letter grade that goes along with city and state regulations. When things are not up to par, the restaurant receives points. A surplus of points equates to a lower grade.

According to New York City's official website, "Since July 2010, the Health Department has required restaurants to post letter grades showing sanitary inspection results."

Restaurants earn an A with 0 and 13 points, a B with 14 to 27 points, and a C with 28 or more points.

With Sacred Heart University in close vicinity to New York City, many students who have seen these grades firsthand said that the process adds a new dimension to the mind games and get to the point.

"It's nice to know that the inspections are done unexpectedly," said junior Gabby Sannotta. "That makes me feel as if the grades are real and more reliable." Restaurants' scores are posted in their windows so they are easily visible to passersby. The letter grades are also available on the city's health department website for the public to search.

Restaurants can be searched several different ways, either by restaurant name or zip code, or through their advanced search. The advanced search allows you to find restaurants by an alphabetical list, boroughs and neighborhoods, cuisine type, and inspection scores.

Senior Jen Hlavac said that since her home is extremely close to the city, she goes there frequently with family and friends.

You have heard about it over and over again — in books and in movies — of people going boy and girl crazy this time of year with spring flings and storied summer romances. But soundng cheesy and dumb, it is definitely true.

Now, you could totally point to the mere fact you are more likely to go outside and interact with people when it's not freezing with snow on the ground. Yet people also tend to care more about their appearance when that spring and summer heat rolls in.

I'll be honest, I am one of the worst offenders of this because I hate that walk to main campus in the winter as much as anyone. I will dress in layers of mismatching clothes, and as long as I am not freezing my ass off, I do not care how ridiculous I look.

Now you could sit there and judge the lack of stock I put in my appearance during the winter, but I know pretty much everyone does the same (with the exception of you freaks who love 20-degree weather).

But once the warm weather comes along, everyone kicks their physical appearances into gear, whether it be at the gym, or with a boost to spring wardrobes. This is based solely on the fact that each sex has that all-important visual component responsible for driving each other crazy.

While that is not the most important thing (I had to put this in here so all those of you reading this article do not perceive me as too shallow...), it is definitely the primary step in that initial attraction.

I will assume there are some skeptics to this whole idea. Yet for me, looking at most of my relationships, they have all stemmed from meetings that took place during those spring and summer months. And I'll bet that if you look back on your own experiences, you will probably agree.

You can classify it as spring fever or say that you've been bitten by the "love bug." It may be because of more exposed skin or merely because people are just more active and their physical peaks during the warmer months.

Regardless of which of these reasons you want to believe, you cannot argue with the fact that there just seems to be something about this time of year that initiates the rollercoaster of love in people's lives and relationships.

So if you would like a mushy inspirational message out of this article, I'll leave you with this: go out and get in the spirit of this time of year.

Take some chances because you are young and in college -- and what do you really have to lose? The answer to that is nothing.

Guys, rejection lasts as long as it takes to say the word "no," so ladies skip the mind games and get to the point.

So now that we have gotten past that, you really do not have any excuses left.

Tell yourself and your friends to get out there, prove this article right, and make it work good.

Oh, and you will be happier too...

Good luck!
The only reason I have come to this conclusion is because when I travel to Italy for a couple of months a year, I am completely disconnected. When I am not using my cell phone or computer I feel like I can connect to a human being on a more personal level, rather than through a gadget. The positive in technology is that everyone can be connected at any time. It is so accessible to contact anyone, even someone across the world. But is this something that has taken over society? Especially living in a country with so many privileges, do we take these things for granted? I think people forget to simply sit back and relax with their phone off. Is that the only thing that makes someone happy? We are constantly updating our Facebook, Twitter, etc. Technology is such a powerful thing and the knowledge behind technology is expanding each and every day. How can we keep up with this without losing ourselves? I think anyone can be happy without technology; it is just a matter of disconnecting yourself first.

On a subconscious level we are all completely addicted to technology because it is such a powerful and useful thing, but where do you draw the line?

So far, the only things I have come to this conclusion is because when I travel to Italy for a couple of months a year, I am completely disconnected. When I am not using my cell phone or computer I feel like I can connect to a human being on a more personal level, rather than through a gadget. The positive in technology is that everyone can be connected at any time. It is so accessible to contact anyone, even someone across the world. But is this something that has taken over society? Especially living in a country with so many privileges, do we take these things for granted? I think people forget to simply sit back and relax with their phone off. Is that the only thing that makes someone happy? We are constantly updating our Facebook, Twitter, etc. Technology is such a powerful thing and the knowledge behind technology is expanding each and every day. How can we keep up with this without losing ourselves? I think anyone can be happy without technology; it is just a matter of disconnecting yourself first.

On a subconscious level we are all completely addicted to technology because it is such a powerful and useful thing, but where do you draw the line?
Ali brings her angels to SHU

Kayley O'Brien
Staff Reporter

On Saturday, March 17, an audience gathered at the Edgerton Center of the Performing Arts to watch the third annual Ali’s Angels Benefit Concert. The event was sponsored by the Performing Arts Center of Connecticut and Sacred Heart University. It was dedicated to former Sacred Heart student Alison Cubbellotti.

Cubbellotti was diagnosed with Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis and Crohn’s Disease, a diagnosis that had left her in need of a liver transplant.

In the fall of 2009, Cubbellotti received a transplant, from another student. Since then, the benefit concert has become an annual tradition since it started in 2010. All proceeds from admission benefited the Ali’s Angels Liver Transplant Fund at Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital.

The foundation helps families who are going through transplants, and so far, they have helped a total of six families.

In the program for the concert, Cubbellotti wrote a letter addressing those in attendance about her experience.

“Journey to good health was definitely a struggle, but I have become a stronger, more passionate woman because of it. I am blessed to have received my second chance at life and plan to live it to the fullest,” she said.

The concert started off with Cubbellotti coming on stage to thank the audience for being apart of the night’s festivities. She told them that this event gives her the hope to keep pushing through her everyday life.

It was obvious that the audience was touched by Cubbellotti’s journey and gratitude, as they erupted in applause for her when she took stage.

One of the performances of the night came from Cubbellotti’s brother, Stephen, who sang Coldplay’s “Fix You.”

Stephen said his song choice came from his sister’s experience. When he found out he wasn’t a suitable donor, he said he felt helpless because he was unable to “fix her.”

The concert then continued with various dance and vocal performances.

One of the performances was by the Shawan Academy of Irish Dance, which was appropriate since it was St. Patrick’s Day. The audience broke out in cheers when younger girls took the stage to perform with the troop.

Broadway dancer Elizabeth Parkinson came out to perform at the show, as did In Motion Dance Company, who performed both country-inspired and upbeat choreography.

Sophomore Melinda Feyko came to the show in hopes of seeing great performances and supporting the cause.

“I heard about this concert happening and I really wanted to attend because it is benefiting a great cause and I wanted to help Ali in any way I could,” Feyko said. “I am so glad that I decided to come, it was so worth it.”

Some students at Sacred Heart were not able to attend the show but still showed their support for Ali’s Angels.

“Unfortunately, I wasn’t able to attend the concert but I know about Ali’s Angels and I think it is a great cause and a great way to benefit Ali’s Fund at Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital,” said sophomore Kaitlyn Doyle. “Ali is a courageous and strong girl and I think she is truly an inspiration.”

Ed Kashi engages students with his photos

Jeff Daley
Staff Reporter

Vision Project’s “Photography in a Digital World” presented photographer and documentary photographer Ed Kashi on Tuesday, March 13 at the Curtis Hall theater.

Rick Falco, media studies professor and president of Vision Project, wants students to use the organization as a way to interact with professionals and open their eyes to the world around them.

“I’m giving them an opportunity to present their work to what I think is an audience that should see it. That’s one reason why I brought Ed. And if you look back at vision projects in the past, every semester we bring at least one outstanding professional for some kind of presentation,” he said.

Falco said that he chose Kashi as a presenter in order to give students a better understanding of the Middle East, as Kashi has great knowledge of the area.

“You get a chance to talk to a guy that really knows what he is doing and you can ask him all kinds of questions, from technical to emotional,” he said.

Kashi started the presentation off with a project that is in the current issue of National Geographic Magazine.

He said he originally proposed the story on Marseille, a city in the south of France, because of its large Muslim population, the greatest of any European city.

“In 2005, when many of the cities of Paris were experiencing violent demonstrations and riots, Marseille was tranquil and I thought, well, why?,” Kashi said.

As he went through a variety of his images from Marseille, Kashi explained to students why this was one of his hardest projects to get through.

“The French have an aversion to media, in particular to photographers. There is a real strong sense of protecting one’s privacy and that I respect, but that was one of the things that made this such a difficult story at first until I sort of found my groove,” he said.

As Kashi went through his pictures, he shared with students a short piece from one of his photo documentaries on aging in America.

“Probably one of the longest projects that I have done to date is on aging. This is another example of a long-term commitment to a specific issue, theme, or subject,” he said.

The piece was personal for Kashi. He explained how he and his wife took care of their one surviving parent who had become very sick.

They moved their two children from San Francisco to New Jersey to be by his side.

“We learned so much from caring for him, what it means to have a life well lived,” said Kashi.

Freshman Alana Miller enjoyed this piece the most because of its intimacy.

“My favorite thing he showed us was his video on aging. I love how he was able to make a video out of pictures he took of his family, rather than pictures of strangers,” she said.

At one point in his career, Kashi moved on to Nigeria, particularly the Niger Delta, where he spent three years developing a project about the suffering community.

The piece he showed was entitled “Curse of the Black Gold,” and showed what happened to the people after big business oil productions moved into their backyards.

Sophomore Gabbiela Antignolo was really touched by this piece because she was unfamiliar with the conflict.

“That piece really grabbed my attention. It showed how much people suffered from the oil spills. It was shocking,” she said.

Kashi’s last piece was a reaction piece inspired by the difficulties he had while in Marseille.

“Eye Contact” was a collection of photos that are usually rejected during the editing process due to the subject in the frame looking straight into the camera.

While constructing the piece he told audiences he asked himself, “When a subject looks back into the camera, do they stop being just an object? And when my subject looks into the camera, is the moment any less real?”

Senior Bill Haug liked this piece in particular because for its touch of human emotion.

“It was a way to make something really cool out of photos that may not have gotten used,” said Haug.

After his presentation there was a quick Q&A with Kashi.

Students asked various questions, some about his career in photography and career advice for students.

According to Kashi, an overall message he wants to send to the young people of this generation is to be aware of the world around them.

“Get engaged with your community, be engaged with the world in some way,” Kashi said. “And ask yourself ‘how can I make a difference?’”
Meatball in the oven

Maryanne McGorty
Staff Reporter

"Jersey Shore" cast member, Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi is exchanging her beer bottles for baby bottles. Rumors have been flying for the last few weeks about her bun in the oven, but it wasn’t until recently that she confirmed to US Weekly that she and her fiancé Jionni LaVelle are expecting a child this fall.

Polizzi has not had the best reputation in the past. Her "character" on the "Jersey Shore" is known for partying hard and making immature decisions. These characteristics have sophomore Hayley McGill and junior Sarsh Burkart questioning her ability to raise a child.

"I think her pregnancy is a sick joke," said McGill. "I really can’t believe it." Burkart prefers to put the news out of mind. "I have no comment because I find it extremely ridiculous," she said.

Sophomore Brendan Finnigan is a fan of "Jersey Shore," but still thinks Polizzi needs to change her ways before she becomes a mother. "Hopefully she can get her act together and take care of this little 'meatball,'" he said.

According to OK! Magazine, Polizzi said that she is putting her partying days behind her so she can be a good mother. "When I wasn’t filming ‘Jersey Shore’ I hardly drank because I got into fitness and losing weight," she said in an interview with the magazine. "I just want to stay home and relax. No more peeing on porches. Those days are over."

Polizzi is exchanging her beer bottles for baby bottles. Those days are over.

"I think she is serious about motherhood. She really seems to be doing very well for herself and she seems to be making steps in the right direction," he said. "I think she has proven to be very mature and will make a great mother in the end."

According to MailOnline.com, Polizzi has recently begun filming her new spin-off show with her best friend and former cast mate Jennifer "J-Woww" Farley. There have also been rumors of Snooki getting another spin off following her pregnancy and life as a mother.

Sophomore Kali Kohn thinks Polizzi's pregnancy is a stunt and just another way to extend her 15 minutes of fame. "I think she is milking it and trying to make herself stay famous," she said. "I hope she does not get the opportunity to get her own show because of this."

However, freshmen Ryan Dmochowski, thinks a family show would be a refreshing change. "I would totally watch her show if she has one," he said. "Mainly because I am a loyal 'Jersey Shore' fan and I want to see her in a totally new environment."

While there are many critics of Polizzi taking on motherhood, her fellow cast members are supportive of the news. "Everyone can talk about how irresponsible she is and how she drinks, but you don't know how she'll be when the baby comes out," Vinny Guadagnino said to the Huffington Post.

Snooki says she is toning down her behavior and is serious about motherhood.

"We wish Nicole a healthy and happy pregnancy and congratulate her on her engagement," they said in a statement.

"John Carter" does less than stellar at box office

Kitsch takes on aliens in this budget busting Disney flick.

Johanna Ovsenek
Staff Reporter

The movie remake of the book series, "John Carter" caused a huge stir for months before it was released with its production budget sitting at over $250 million. Unfortunately, it's looking like the investment is not going to turn into big profits.

According to Box Office Mojo, the movie only made around $30 million in its first weekend. To add insult to injury, it was beat at the box office by animated film, Dr. Suess', "The Lorax."

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"Zondangans" and "Heilumters" and Carter is inevitably holding up. Award-winning writers Michael Chabon and Mark Andrews tell the story of John Carter (played by a muscular Taylor Kitsch) a former military captain who is suffering from post-traumatic stress.

Kitsch, recognized most for his role as Tim Riggins in the critically acclaimed television series "Friday Night Lights," makes an impressive transition from television to movies and really brings John Carter's character to life. Carter is mysteriously transported to the planet of Mars. On Mars, or "Barsoom" as it is called, Carter is able to breathe the air and take big running leaps because there is no gravity.

Carter meets a group of skinny, four-armed creatures known as Tharks, and eventually realizes that the Tharks' fate rests in his hands. The planet is launching a war between other planets "Zondangans" and "Heilumters" and Carter is inevitably and predictably lured into it.

All of this action is accompanied by Carter's love interest, Dejah Thoris, played by Lynn Collins, known for her rolls in the movie "X-Men Wolverine" and the television show "True Blood". Collins also does a notable job throughout the movie, holding her own against the talented Kitsch. Their obvious on-screen chemistry makes the movie easier to watch. The visuals are what save the slow, drawn-out storyline. Nevertheless, the graphics are very impressive and give the movie a "Star Wars" feel.

While I do enjoy my fair share of action packed movies, I'd have to say "John Carter" didn't live up to its $250 million budget.

The beginning and ending are filled with action-packed scenes that keep you hooked to the screen. But, disappointingly, the middle of the film is monotonous and dull.

Fans of the book might be disappointed with the movie, but if you are looking for action-packed, sci-fi movie with impressive graphics, then this one is for you.

Get Reel gives ‘John Carter’ ★★★★☆
Features

Kony 2012 video stirs controversy

Kim Woodruff
Staff Reporter

Fourteen students at Sacred Heart University sat quietly in a classroom for 30 minutes as they intently watched a video. Though it has been talked about across the world, for that half an hour, in that room, not a word was spoken.

These students are all members of Peace by Justice organization on campus and were watching the much buzzed about video, Kony 2012. The organization is student-run and works closely with the Invisible Children foundation. The cause of both organizations is to stop the abduction and enslavement of children as soldiers and sex slaves in Uganda.

According to the Kony 2012 website, “Kony 2012 is a film and campaign that aims to make Joseph Kony famous, not to celebrate him, but to raise awareness for his arrest and set a precedent for international justice.”

The video has been criticized for oversimplifying the 26-year-old conflict involving the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) and its leader, Joseph Kony, a bush fighter wanted by the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity.

After seeing the video for the first time, many of the club members said they think people should read further about the movement so that they are fully aware of its intentions.

“It’s a good way for everyone to see what’s going on. If you watch the video and are inspired by it, then you should go back and read about what’s going on,” said Junior Elissa Pinette, secretary of Peace by Justice.

Though Invisible Children has existed for years, Kony 2012 has only recently brought worldwide attention to their cause. As of March 19, the Invisible Children Facebook fan page had over 3.1 million “likes.”

The video and cause went viral thanks to social networking sites such as Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter.

When referring to Invisible Children’s plan to capture Kony, Justin Liberman, professor of media studies, said he doesn’t think that a video online will make that definitive end result. Though Liberman said the movement interested him, he also believes that in every film there is a life about every 24 seconds.

Junior Trevor Kelly, co-president of Peace by Justice explained that as a group, they are still trying to decide how they feel about the Kony 2012 movement.

“I don’t think that we, Peace by Justice, are pro-war by any means. I am very proud of the work that we have done for Invisible Children thus far,” said Kelly. “I’m not sure where we are headed as a group, but I am confident that we are going to go in a good direction. Obviously this has stirred up a lot of emotions. I think that this is giving us a very good opportunity to do bigger and better things as we continue.”

The organization is still deciding if they will participate in any Kony 2012 activities, but one member, Junior Ross Brinton, is fully on board.

Brinton said he wants to help spread the awareness and plans on getting the Action Kit promoted in the video. The kit includes a t-shirt, bracelet, action guide, stickers, buttons, and posters.

“If enough people in the country start to care then it becomes the national interest of the country because then the majority of the people care about it, so the country can’t just ignore it,” said Brinton.

Other members have not reacted as positively to the video’s message.

“I think [it] was frightening seeing the main poster of Kony’s face along side Hitler and Bin Ladin. Is he doing bad things? Absolutely. Is this guy Hitler? I don’t think so. Does he need to be stopped? Absolutely,” said Kelly. “But we shouldn’t be making these kind of monster generalizations to prove a point.”

Recently, Jason Russell, one of the founders of Invisible Children and creator and narrator the video, caught even more controversy to the Kony 2012 movement. Russell was detained by police and hospitalized on Thursday, March 15 after he was seen running through the streets in his underwear, screaming, and banging his fists on the pavement.

Ben Keesey, CEO of Invisible Children said that the overwhelming reception to Kony 2012 had “taken its toll on Russell because it was “so personal to him.”

Despite the controversy the video attracted, it did accomplish what it set out to, which is to make Kony and the cause, famous.

Take hold of an opportunity to serve the students of Sacred Heart!

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ELECTION PACKETS AVAILABLE IN STUDENT LIFE 3/12

New Member Mandatory Info Session (attend 1)
3/20 - 10:10 p.m. UC 105 3/21 - 2 p.m. - UC 110
Election Packets Due 3/12
MANDATORY Candidates Meeting on 3/28 at 2 p.m.
Grosodonia laces up her bowling SHUs

Dana Maltese
Staff Reporter

Senior Michelle Grosodonia is taking on the world, one pin at a time.

Grosodonia began bowling in the eighth grade in Rochester, N.Y.

“I bowled a 76 and made it onto the team,” she said.

By the time she left Our Lady of Mercy High School, she accomplished bowling a perfect game.

The bowling team practices at Nutmeg Bowling, located in Fairfield, but in addition Grosodonia, and the rest of the team, incorporated a strength conditioning coach to help the team.

“You wouldn’t think it but bowling uses 115 muscles to perfect having a good form,” she said.

As a senior, Grosodonia admits it’s not easy balancing sports and schoolwork.

“I love my labrum in my hip over the summer so weight lifting keeps me sane while I can’t play,” she said. “I took wanting to compete in bowling and used it in weight lifting.”

Grosodonia is no stranger to injuries. Before her recent labrum tear, she has previously had a popped hip.

“Bowling is really strenuous on your knees and hips because of the same constant motion. Throwing a 15 pound ball for an extended period of time uses one side of your body, but what I like about weight lifting is that you use both sides of your body,” she said.

The weight lifting team is a club that competes individually with the addition of team points.

“I started this summer power lifting, benching, and squatting with a trainer at home,” she said.

Grosodonia never foresaw participating in weight lifting, but just did it as more of a hobby.

“I was approached in the gym one day after lifting on my own,” she said. “I like to pick things up so I said, why not.”

Grosodonia has always felt the need to compete while growing up.

“I grew up having three older brothers and have always wanted to show my strength,” she said. “What better way then to join a weight lifting team?”

She started with the weight lifting club in September and has taken to it rather quickly.

“I like the fact that I have a goal and every time I try to achieve that goal, it’s a good way to have self fulfillment,” said Grosodonia.

Another club Grosodonia is actively involved in is Habitat for Humanity.

“I just got back from Aberdeen, North Carolina and building a house for someone was one of the coolest experiences ever,” she said.

Grosodonia is also a member of ESTEEM Leadership, a nationwide program to develop the leadership skills of young Catholics.

She also partakes in the SIFE organization on campus, which helps the Bridgeport community with their economic status by applying business education skills.

“When I am not bowling or weight lifting I like to relax and hang out with my friends and like to do community service when I find the time,” she said.

When it comes to her studies Grosodonia is a self-proclaimed “list maker.”

“I began making lists and setting goals for myself from a young age,” Grosodonia said.

By making list, she finds staying organized an easier task in her busy life.

“My planner is my best friend. It has everything in it,” she said.

While at Sacred Heart, Grosodonia likes to spend her time with people who have a positive influence.

“I like to surround myself with people who are like-minded in order to stay on track,” she said.

Appetites satisfied during Lent

Sophia Destrue
Staff Reporter

If abstaining from meat this Lenten season is proving to be a challenge, Chartwells will be offering alternate meat options on their menu to help make it a little easier on you.

“Every Friday during Lent, we will be providing a seafood option,” said Leighton Haughton, Executive Chef at Chartwells.

“The menu will always be changed up to keep the customers interested with some other sort of fish in the hot line at the Chef’s Table station.”

Lent is a 40-day period, which concludes to Easter Sunday.

“Lent officially begins the first Sunday of the Lent calendar and it runs 40 days up to 4 p.m. on Holy Thursday afternoon,” said Father Gerald Ryle.

During the period of Lent, Catholics are encouraged to practice the three traditions of praying, giving, and fasting as a sacrifice.

Avoiding meat on Friday has historically been a way that Catholics have expressed their devotion to the Lord for sacrificing his life for them.

“The tradition on Friday is because it’s the day that our lord died on the cross, so you would offer up that self-discipline as a sacrifice,” said Father Ryle.

Student Government determined that it is necessary to offer everyone on campus an alternative to meat, especially during the season of Lent.

“We touched base with Student Government and determined that although Sacred Heart is a Catholic university, it is still a diverse school so we can’t just take away all meat from the cafeteria during Lent,” said Father Ryle.

Though there will be meat offered on Fridays, there will also be seafood, vegan, and vegetarian options for those who follow the Lent tradition.

Some student finds this very convenient.

“I was raised as a Catholic and I’ve always followed Lent while I was home, so it’s kind of a tradition for me,” said sophomore Dana Kinlen.

Many Catholic students with the same beliefs and traditions as Kinlen agree that it is the right thing for Chartwells to do during the season of Lent.

“It’s good that they serve seafood and they always have tuna on hand daily,” said Kinlen. “Pizza is also another option they offer all of the time in case you don’t want seafood, but you don’t want to eat meat either.”

Chartwells offers a suggestion box that they encourage all to use so they can accommodate as many students as they possibly can.

“We are already here to please everyone’s needs,” said Haughton.

Commuter students talk life on campus

Michelle Aptekin
Staff Reporter

Students who live on campus are surrounded by activities and events that keep Sacred Heart University’s pulse beating, but do those who live at home feel left out?

According to a survey conducted by the Spectrum, 53 out of 99 commuter students said they feel like they are part of the community.

Sophomore Georgia Fatibene commutes from Shelton and feels as if she is very much part of the community.

“Sacred Heart is definitely a community that I am involved in. I am on campus for much more than classes,” she said.

As the community service chair for class of 2014, she is actively involved in Student Government. She is also involved in a mentoring program.

Her involvement at Sacred Heart has made a difference in how connected she is.

“I think just feeling you have a purpose on campus makes a huge difference. It’s fun planning events that either SHU students can attend, knowing I had a part in that,” said Fatibene.

Instead of going home, Fatibene stays on campus a lot to be among peers.

“I go to the library or have lunch with friends. I like to hang out in the Mohog where there is always someone you know in there,” she said.

In the survey, 74 students surveyed agreed that being involved in other activities at Sacred Heart made a difference in feeling a part of the community.

On the other hand, many students also cited that they do not feel like they belong in the community.

Forty-six students feel as if Sacred Heart is just a place to take classes.

Junior Kurt Sierer, a commuter from Trumbull, is among the 44 who feel this way.

“When he is not in class he is working at a full time job,” Sierer said. “I have my own thing going on. I am not one to be really involved with school activities so I don’t mind not being a part of the community,” he said.

Like Sierer, many commuters reported having jobs, which limits time on campus.

“It depends on your attitude. [For me] it’s easy to just go home straight after class and not get involved,” said Sierer.
Sports

Saturday, March 17

W. Softball
SHU - 3
Coppin St. - 1

M. Lacrosse
SHU - 11
Vermont - 12

M. Baseball
SHU - 8
CCSU - 3

W. Basketball
SHU - 50
Georgia Tech - 76

M. Tennis
SHU - 7
Fordham - 0

Scoreboard

Sunday, March 18

NEC Rookie of the Year Gabby Washington (#30) drives to the basket in Sunday's 76-50 NCAA Tournament loss to Georgia Tech.

Pioneers end season with NCAA Tournament loss

...CONTINUED from page 1.

“Personally I was frustrated because one of my main goals was not to get into foul trouble,” Taylor said. "I think we let them dictate how we took care of the ball and had too many unforced turnovers and dug ourselves into a hole. Against such a talented team as this it makes it even more difficult to come back.”

Even with the Pioneers go-to player back on the floor, Sacred Heart couldn’t get anything going offensively and Georgia Tech couldn’t miss from the field.

After a 12-6 run to take the lead in the early stages of the second half, Georgia Tech pulled away on a 29-12 run for the remainder of the game.

Sacred Heart shot 39 percent from the field for the game, but just 27 percent from three. They were around 33 percent most of the game, but a late surge got them closer to 40.

Coming into the game Sacred Heart knew they had to contain Georgia Tech’s two All-ACC Second Team players in sophomore point guard Tysanni Marshall and 6-foot-5 center Sasha Goodlett.

The Pioneers went nearly seven minutes without a field goal – 14:25 to 7:31 of game time, while the Yellow Jackets shot 50 percent from the field in the first half, and were 4-of-5 from three-point range.

After trailing 9-7 Georgia Tech went on a 11-4 run to take the lead early in the second half, but Georgia Tech couldn’t miss from the field.

“Personally I was frustrated because it was around 53 percent from the field, and a sizzling 67 percent from three-point range. It also ends the collegiate careers for seniors, and part of our goal is our conference schedule to move up to a 12 or 11 seed,” Swanson said.

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Coming into the game Sacred Heart knew they had to contain Georgia Tech’s two All-ACC Second Team players in sophomore point guard Tysanni Marshall and 6-foot-5 center Sasha Goodlett.

For the most part they did, as Marshall only had two points, and Goodlett managed 12 points, on eight shots, but she made her impact on the glass, pulling down 11 rebounds.

“We don’t have anyone that tall,” Taylor said. “Both ends of the floor having a big body rebounding wise, you feel like you put a body on her, but sometimes you need two. It makes it difficult on both ends of the floor.”

What Sacred Heart did not see coming was freshman Sydney Wallace coming off the bench to score a game-high 28 points, on 11-of-13 shooting and 6-of-8 from three-point range.

“We didn’t think Wallace would come in and shoot 6-of-8 from three,” Swanson said. “That is not in the stats, that is not her.”

“That is the danger, you have to give something up when you play a type of team like Georgia Tech. You have to pick your poison and we picked to get beat from the outside and I guess we picked the wrong one.”

Her scoring was the reason why she was recruited by the Yellow Jackets.

“Obviously, Sydney Wallace was a huge factor today. We brought her to Georgia Tech to score, and she’s done that in spurts throughout the whole ACC season,” Yellow Jackets head coach MaChelle Joseph said. “Today, she took it to a whole other level.”

Sacred Heart stayed with Georgia Tech in the turnover battle, as the Yellow Jackets forced 20 Pioneer turnovers, and the Pioneers forced 19 Yellow Jacket turnovers.

The difference was Georgia Tech got 31 points off of the 20 turnovers, while Sacred Heart only managed 11 points.

The Yellow Jackets size and athleticism had a lot to do with this.

“Callan Taylor is leaving as one of the most decorated players in (school history),” Swanson said. “[She has a] tremendous work ethic, and she’s going to be really tough to replace. Not as much from a talent standpoint, but the work ethic she brings every day.”

The Pioneers return three of their five starters next season – Norman, Washington and starting center, sophomore Enjoli Bland.

Sacred Heart also returns key contributors off the bench in juniors Morgan Merriman and Kiley Evans, sophomores Blair Kosciuszko and Elise Lorenz, and freshman Katie Shepard.

After making the tournament as a No. 11 seed in 2006, No. 14 seed in 2008 and No. 13 seed this year, Swanson, the NEC’s Coach of the Year, realizes that the Pioneers need to do whatever is in their power to get a higher seed the next time, making it easier to get that elusive first tournament win.

“We talked about the returning players, and part of our goal is our conference schedule to move up to a 12 or 11 seed,” Swanson said.
Behind the Scenes: NCAA Tournament weekend with the Pioneers

Ryan Hannable
Editor-in-Chief

Editor's Note: I was given the opportunity to travel with the women's basketball team to Chapel Hill, N.C. for the NCAA Tournament. I gave full-access to the team, from the moment of leaving campus, to the actual game and the trip back to Sacred Heart. The following is an inside look of the Pioneers' weekend trip in North Carolina.

Friday, March 16, 2012

After learning that they had earned the No. 13 seed in the NCAA Tournament, by way of their NEC Tournament Championship, Sacred Heart endured three full days of practice before departing at 7:30 a.m. Friday morning to North Carolina to take on the No. 4 seeded Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets.

The players, coaches, administrators, dance team, cheerleaders and pep band all arrived to campus early on a gloomy morning and boarded two coach buses en route to White Plains N.Y. for their charter flight to Raleigh, N.C.

After arriving at the airport about an hour and half early, everyone gathered in the lobby waiting to board the plane. Both excitement and anticipation filled the air as everyone was eager to get to North Carolina.

Flying on a charter plane certainly has its perks; as there isn’t as much security and you are able to walk out onto the plane, which was quite an experience for everyone.

It was only an hour and half flight down to Raleigh and once the Pioneers landed, two buses awaited them on the runway. After unloading all the luggage onto the buses, Sacred Heart was on their way to the hotel.

Since the Pioneers were the last seed of the four teams at the Chapel Hill site, their hotel was the furthest from the campus (about 20 minutes, but closest to the airport, about 15 minutes).

After unloading all the bags from the buses and checking into the rooms, the team had some down time before practice late that afternoon.

Pulling onto the University of North Carolina campus everyone was looking out the windows of the buses at the beautiful campus, with trees over-hanging the road way, giving it a private college feel.

The team practiced in a recreational center gym, which was extremely hot inside as there was no air conditioning and no fans.

While the team practiced for an hour and a half, the administrators walked the campus, led by Senior Associate Athletic Director for Compliance, and Senior Women Administrator, Alicia Alford, who graduated from the school.

The group saw all the athletic facilities including the Kenan football stadium, but not the Dean Dome as it was quite the trek across campus.

Following the practice, the team headed back to the hotel for a team dinner and then a night of relaxing watching the men’s NCAA Tournament together.

Saturday, March 17, 2012

The team would have a practice at Carmichael Arena, the site of their game on Sunday, but that was not until 4:30, so the team had a calm morning and early afternoon at the hotel together.

They had a team breakfast, followed by a film session, then time to them selves before departing for the arena shortly before 3:00 p.m.

Before practice coach Ed Swanson and seniors Alexx Campbell and Callan Taylor held a press conference for the media.

Following a light practice, to get used to the elements, the team headed back to the hotel to change for a team dinner at an Italian restaurant.

Joining the team for dinner were the entire administration staff that made the trip, Noreen Morris, the NEC Commissioner, as well as some of the team's family members that made the trip in support of the team.

You wouldn't know the team was less than 24 hours away from playing in an NCAA Tournament game as they were joking around with one another, having a good time.

Unlike some collegiate athletic teams, this team is very close. There are no cliques, everyone enjoys each others company, and wants everyone to succeed.

Following the family style dinner, Director of Athletics, C. Donald Cook addressed everyone, saying how proud the school is of the team for all that they have accomplished, thanking the administration for all the work they did all season long with the team, as well as all of the travel arrangements, and then the families for making the journey in support of the team.

The team returned to the hotel shortly after 9:30 p.m. and they got a good night's rest as the next day would be the day that have been working all week and all season long for.

Sunday, March 18, 2012

It was game day. The relaxed, joking around team from the night before was now a focused group, primed for a first-round upset of the Yellow Jackets.

The team departed for the arena shortly before 8:00 a.m. for a shoot around, to get their bodies running and into game mode.

After returning to the hotel for a team meal, the team left for their 2:50 p.m. game around noon. They were greeted by the band, who played for them as they boarded the buses.

Upon arriving on the campus, ESPN cameras were outside the bus to record the team walking into the arena.

The Pioneers remained focused, but yet relaxed as game time was closing in.

Once the Georgetown-Fresno State game wrapped up, it was time for the Pioneers to take to the historic Carmichael Arena floor, for the program's third-ever NCAA Tournament game.

After jumping out to a 9-7 lead, the rest of the game did not go as planned and the Pioneers fell to the Yellow Jackets 76-50.

Obviously, it was an emotional locker room following the game, with the careers ending for seniors Taylor, Campbell and Kris Iovino, and the end of what was a terrific season.

After gathering themselves, the team was allowed to enjoy a night out with their families on Franklin Street (a popular street on the University of North Carolina's campus), while the members of the team whose families couldn’t make it also enjoyed dinner on Franklin Street.

Later at night everyone gathered back at the hotel and watched more of the NCAA Tournament together.

Although their season had just ended hours before, disappointed, the team still was able to make each other laugh and have fun together since the team is not only close on the court, but off the court as well.

Monday, March 19, 2012

The team, administration, dance team, cheerleaders and pep band all departed the hotel around 8:30 a.m., for their 10:00 a.m. chartered flight from Raleigh back to White Plains.

After waiting for a few minutes in the lobby, everyone walked out onto the runway and onto the waiting plane, while the luggage was already loaded from the bus.

It was a short, hour and half flight, and once landing in White Plains, there were two busses waiting to drive everyone back to campus.

After arriving on campus around 1:00 p.m., the weekend had come to an end, and with that the 2011-12 women's basketball season ended as well.

It will be a season that will not only be remembered by the team for all that they accomplished on the court, but the relationships they made with their teammates. They truly bonded and became a family.

Although the season may be over, the memories and friendships they made will last a lifetime.

I would like to thank the entire Sacred Heart women's basketball team, coaches and administrators for giving me the opportunity to be on the trip with them. Everyone made me feel welcomed, and it was an experience that I will never forget.

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Canadian standout Drew George looks to make impact for Pioneers

Kathryn Cooper
Staff Reporter

Born in Regina, Saskatchewan to a father who grew up playing hockey, and an uncle who played for a professional Canadian Team, Drew George was raised with the sport of hockey.

For George, growing up in an area where it was always pretty cold, playing hockey outdoors was the norm.

"I actually moved around quite a bit when I was younger," said George. "I lived in four or five different places up in Saskatchewan. All my buddies played hockey, all my family played hockey, so just kind of grew up with it," said George.

George’s older sister Landace is quite the hockey fan as well. She is currently married to a hockey player.

This goes to show that hockey blood is truly in the George family.

Playing hockey outdoors gives most hockey players a feeling of comfort, because for most of them, it is where they started playing. That is how George felt every time he played outdoors on the pond with his friends.

"I’ve been skating since I was about two or three, and I’ve been playing hockey since I was four or five; so (I’ve played), pretty much my whole life," said George.

As George grew, so did his game. He played for multiple teams, but his most memorable moment was winning the Midget AAA championship for his high school team.

Playing in nationals in Midget AAA in Canada for his high school team was a pretty surreal moment. We played at kind of a prestigious high school, Midget AAA in Canada, and they hadn’t won in about 20 years, so it was pretty cool to win for the school," said George.

George then got the experience of a lifetime when he went on to play for Team Canada West in the World Juniors.

"It was pretty neat to put on my country’s crest and play for Canada. Obviously not the outcome we wanted, finishing fourth. I think it was the worst ever finish for us, but it was pretty neat to play against the world’s top players," said George.

After playing two years of junior hockey, it was time for George to start looking at colleges and universities.

George had a couple of friends who were looking at him to come to their school to play hockey, but George felt that Sacred Heart was the right place for him.

When George was looking at Sacred Heart, he knew the team had struggled in the past. When he finally committed, he made sure to put a lot of pressure on himself as a goal scorer to try and put the points up to help the team win.

Unfortunately, George and the Pioneers weren’t able to put up the points this year. George is even more confident that he can help the team in the years to come.

George’s first season playing for Sacred Heart was a rough one, but he still prepares for every game the same way.

On the day of a game, George likes to enjoy a nice breakfast in the morning, then go for a stretch, get in the ice tub for a bit, take a pre-game nap, have his pre-game meal, then head to the rink for the game that night.

"I put on all my left equipment before my right equipment, and just kind of make sure I’m the last one to go on the ice," said George.

"Why does he do left before right?"

"I did it one time and had a great game, so I just kept doing it," said George.

George continues to improve in his game by following the pros, and one NHL player that George looks up to is Patrice Bergeron from the Boston Bruins.

"He’s a great all around player; he can score goals, he can keep the puck out, and I kind of hope I can play more like Patrice Bergeron because he’s a player that every coach would love to have," said George.

When George is not at the rink, or thinking about hockey he is a regular student at Sacred Heart studying accounting.

M. Lax falls to Vermont in final seconds

Annemarie A’Hearn
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart men’s lacrosse team fell short in a close game on Saturday against The University of Vermont Catamounts.

The Pioneers recorded five goals in the fourth quarter to tie the game, but Vermont scored with 10 seconds remaining on the clock making the final score 12-11 Vermont.

The Pioneers top scorers for the game were sophomores Tom Sardelli, who had three goals, and Andrew Newbold, who scored a pair.

The Pioneers attacked the Catamounts off the bat scoring three goals within the first four minutes of the game, led by Sardelli scoring within the first minute.

Three minutes later, senior Aaron Lupo and junior Steve Kontos both scored unassisted goals within eight seconds of each other.

Newbold and senior Matt King built the lead, contributing two more goals towards the end of the first quarter making it a 5-3 lead.

After a great first quarter, The University of Vermont did not let the Pioneers get a shot in until the third quarter.

Seven minutes into the third quarter, Sardelli broke the scoreless streak by cutting the lead down to 11-6.

"It was a back and forth game up until the third quarter when Vermont took an 11-6 lead," said Kontos.

When the fourth quarter began, the Pioneers found the spark they had in the first quarter as the offense rallied to score five goals in just under ten minutes.

The goals were started off by Newbold’s opening face off, followed by Sardelli and seniors Chris Casey and Matthew Ferrino to bring the Pioneers trail 11-10 with 8:50 left.

With just 5:10 remaining, junior Trevor Dausnes then tied the game with an unassisted goal.

Sardelli looked to take the lead with less than a minute left in the game, but was denied by the Catamounts goalie.

Sacred Heart then had a turnover giving the University of Vermont the ball back.

With ten seconds left on the clock, Vermont made a shot making the score 12-11 to finish the game.

“We had a lot of chances to score and the Vermont goalie played really well," said Kontos. "When there was 10 seconds left, the ball was on the ground, and a Vermont player picked it up and threw it in front of the net where his fellow teammate caught the ball, went for a shot, and scored."

"Although we made a few mistakes, there were times where we showed how good we can play."

The Pioneers look to clean up their mistakes so the can improve as a team.

"It was a tough loss, probably our toughest yet," said junior Pierzr Bradley. "Seeing how we came out with a 3-0 lead to start the game, it came down to some key plays throughout the game that we did not execute."

The Pioneers will use this game as a learning experience as they look forward to their home game, today when they play the Hartford Hawks at 3 p.m. on Campus Field.

It will be their second-to-last non-conference game before beginning their conference schedule on Saturday, March 31 against Bryant.

Sacred Heart will host St. John’s on March 24 for their last non-conference game.
Baseball splits weekend series with CCSU

Dan Otzel
Asst. Sports Editor

For the defending Northeast Conference champions, this season hasn’t quite started the way last season ended.

Following a four-game sweep at New Mexico State University, where they were outscored 71-22, Sacred Heart traveled to Florida for four games in Port Charlotte and then to Tampa.

In Port Charlotte, the Pioneers lost to Xavier University, split with the University of Pittsburgh, and dropped the finale to Miami University. In Tampa, Sacred Heart suffered a three-game sweep at the hands of the United States Military Academy.

Trading the sun of Florida for the late winter saturated gray of Connecticut, the Pioneers returned home looking to improve upon their 1-10 record and begin their NEC title defense.

This past weekend, the Sacred Heart University baseball team split a four-game series against in-state/NEC rival Central Connecticut University baseball team split a four-game series against in-state/NEC rival Central Connecticut University.

"It was crucial," said Scribner, one of the top draft prospects in the NEC. "We needed this win under our belt because we have been struggling. We struggled in the middle for two RBIs and a 3-0 Pioneer lead."

Sacred Heart opened the scoring with a three-run bottom of the first. With the bases loaded, Griffith hit a sac fly and a walk loaded the bases again. Freshman third baseman Kenny Byram singled up the middle for two RBIs and a 3-0 Pioneer lead.

Sacred Heart would add three runs in the sixth with a RBI single by sophomore Connor McEvoy and a two RBI single off the bat of freshman Matt Charming, putting the game out of reach. As it happens in baseball, Game 2 of Saturday’s double dip would be quite different.

Five Sacred Heart errors would lead to six unearned runs and a 7-0 defeat.

Sacred Heart head coach Nick Giaquinto. "(Griffith) is pretty dangerous. He’s been a great hitter for us.

In the second, Sacred Heart added two runs and put the game out of reach in the third with a two-out rally plating two more. Sacred Heart tacked on the ninth run in the seventh. The only Pioneer without a hit was sophomore designated hitter Dan Perez, who reached once and scored a run.

"We’ve been working so hard on trying to string together a few hits," said Scribner. "Today, we crushed the ball. We were really aggressive. It was good to see."

"Overall," said Griffith, "I think the way our staff has been competing.

"We won the first two," said Giaquinto, "so we’re disappointed, of course. But, Central’s a good team. Every weekend is a conference matchup today at 3:30 p.m.

"After missing four games due to injury, Griffith smashed four hits on the day and in the series, raising his average to .370.

"I’m getting better," said Griffith, "but I hope in last year’s NCAA Tournament game at the Super Regional."

"The pitchers competed all weekend," said Giaquinto. "Everybody we threw out there left it on the field, so we’re happy about the way our staff has been competing."

The bats were quieted by Blue Devil starter Charlie Hickey yanked in the eighth for a 7-3 lead. Ingham gave up a run in the bottom of the ninth, but escaped a jam to close the door for a three inning save, his second save of the year.

Although Giaquinto, who fell to 0-3, and junior relievers John Hermanson and Liam Rafferty each gave up runs, Pioneer pitching improved drastically in their return home. In the four games against Central Connecticut, Sacred Heart gave up 4.25 runs per game, a far cry from the 10.91 runs per game surrendered in the first 11 games.

"The pitchers competed all weekend," said Giaquinto. "Everybody we threw out there left it on the field, so we’re happy about the way our staff has been competing."

What our chore is now, is to figure out how to get them in."
Weekend Slugfest with CCSU

Junior outfielder Dave Boisture (#24) takes a big cut at a pitch in Sunday's 7-4 loss to Central Connecticut State.