For Rooney, age is just a number

Julianne O’Hara
Staff Reporter

Mickey Rooney, a Hollywood legend, was welcomed with a standing ovation at Sacred Heart University’s Edgerton Center on Saturday, March 24 to reminisce on his career and reflect on his success in life.

Students in attendance were amazed by the quickness of Rooney’s mind. “It’s remarkable how at the age of 92, Mickey Rooney still has such wit about him and how he is still able to recall on so many memories and remember all the famous faces he worked with,” said junior Katie Durr.

According to Rooney’s official website, he was the number-one box office actor in the U.S. from 1939 to 1941. He has received many awards and nominations throughout his career. These include an Emmy Award, two Golden Globes, and an honorary Oscar for lifetime achievement.

Despite the considerable age difference between Rooney and the students, many of them can appreciate his legacy. “When I think of Mickey Rooney, I think of a legend who was one of the greatest actors of his time. I am astonished that to this day, he is still working on films and projects constantly,” said sophomore Kat Lindsay.

Rooney recalled all of his favorite memories from movie sets and all of the people he met in his career who impacted him. He also gave some advice for the audience, saying that shared love for others is the most important part of life.

At the end of his talk, audience members were allowed to ask questions or just tell Rooney how much he means to them. Many people expressed how much he impacted them and how they idolized him as they grew up watching his movies, TV shows, and stage performances.

Since both of his parents were performers, Rooney had big shoes to fill. He began acting at the age of 18 months.

According to the Rooney’s official website, his best-known roles were in films such as “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” “Boys Town,” “Babes in Arms,” and the hit series “Andy Hardy.”

Younger audiences might know him as the voice of Tod, the lovable fox in the animated Disney classic, “The Fox and the Hound,” or as the janitor villain, Gus, in “Night at the Museum.”

Students were greatly inspired by the experiences that Rooney shared. “Hearing him talk about his life was really inspirational,” said freshman Erin Dugan. “He’s such a talented performer, and he’s been through so much in his career.”
The shooting of an unarmed teen has sparked outrage throughout the United States.

On Feb. 26, a 17-year-old African American named Trayvon Martin was fatally shot by neighborhood watch volunteer George Zimmerman as he walked to his father's fiancée's house in Sanford, Fla.

Zimmerman allegedly viewed Martin as a suspicious person because Martin was wearing a hooded sweatshirt. Shortly after making a 911 call to the police, an altercation began, and Martin was shot. When police arrived on the scene, Zimmerman claimed self-defense and was not charged with any crime.

Many Americans, including students at Sacred Heart University, question Zimmerman's intentions.

"I don't understand why the neighborhood watch volunteer was carrying a gun in the first place," said sophomore Taylor Macchiarelli. "If he was only a volunteer, he probably shouldn't have been carrying a gun and should have waited for the police."

According to the Associated Press, Martin's parents and hundreds of supporters say that Zimmerman should not have been immediately arrested and charged with the youth's killing. But local police say they have little evidence to disprove his self-defense claim.

They also say that he is covered under Florida's Stand Your Ground law, which dictates that a person has the right to stand his or her ground and "meet force with force" if attacked.

A grand jury will convene on April 10 to consider whether to bring state charges, which could include second-degree murder or manslaughter.

Many people wonder why no charges have been brought forth against Zimmerman.

"I think it is sad to think that the boy was killed simply because someone viewed him as being suspicious, and even worse that the man hasn't even been arrested -- even if it was in self-defense," said Macchiarelli.

Civil rights activists from groups such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have claimed that the shooting was a hate crime, and that Martin fell victim to racial profiling.

"I don't know if it was necessarily a racial crime," said junior Catherine Glass. "Either way, I think it was wrong that the volunteer acted so drastically because someone looked or seemed to be out of the ordinary."

The U.S. Justice Department could bring hate crime charges against the shooter if there is sufficient evidence the slaying was motivated by racial bias and not simply a fight that spiraled out of control, legal experts and former prosecutors say.
Is Obama a ‘snob’ for encouraging college?

Kerry Browne
Staff Reporter

Republican presidential candidate Rick Santorum was recently criticized for calling U.S. President Barack Obama a "snob" for advocating that all Americans strive for higher education. His comments have raised the question, "Is the notion that college is necessary patronizing?"

Dr. Stephen Lilley, chair of the sociology department at Sacred Heart University, argues that there are two levels that one can measure the outcomes of a college education that could illustrate its perceived necessity: at a practical level and at an ideal level.

A practical level cites earnings as its measure of success.

"Those who earn college degrees and go out into the workforce ultimately earn more than those with high school degrees or less," says Lilley. "It makes perfect sense that this is a good investment and should be pursued by as many people as possible."

Lilley illustrates with an example between the career earnings of a woman with a high school degree and a woman with a college degree: the greater earnings of the college graduate over the high school graduate will be $1.5 million.

Meanwhile, at the ideal level, the measure is personal development.

"When I say ideally, there are things you could pick that don’t show themselves in terms of earning money," he said. "You are getting four more years of exposure, to knowledge and information that allows you to better comprehend yourself as an individual."

By pointing out the advantages of a college education, Lilley is not discounting the value of trade schools or other paths.

"Students could be in apprenticeships or trade schools, and we shouldn’t disregard their abilities, their talents, and their drive," he said.

But Lilley points out that it is not feasible to have an excessive number of students studying a specific trade.

"The trades are always relatively small in terms of the size of people they can handle. You just can’t have a plumber for every other household," said Lilley.

"You would never be able to make enough money if there was such a supply of them."

If it is so counterproductive in society to discourage higher education, despite the evidence to the contrary, what is Santorum’s motivation to express such a sentiment?

Dr. Gary Rose, chair of the department of government and politics, argues that there was a political motivation for his comments.

"The comment was aimed at his working-class base, and that has always been his narrative," said Rose. "He’s from Pennsylvania, his grandfather worked in a coal mine, and that’s a pretty compelling narrative for some people."

Lilley agrees that there is a political dimension to Santorum’s comments. However, he believes that Santorum may have overstated his case.

"I think it’s a bit resonating of what some people call the culture wars, and this is where social values become contested," he said. "It’s wrong to conflate higher education with a liberal agenda. It just goes too far."

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Catholic groups upset over birth control

...CONTINUED from page 1.

Rep. Virginia Foxx, a Republican from North Carolina, said that the rule contradicts Americans' fundamental rights. "It must not stand, and it will not stand, if we are going to keep the freedoms that we love and cherish in this country," Foxx said. Many Congressional Democrats believe that the mandate is necessary to ensure women's health rights. "It is time for the extreme right wing to stop playing football with women's rights," said Rep. Nita Lowey of N.Y.

But the battle over contraceptive rights has extended beyond Washington. The impending government policy has provoked outrage from many prominent Catholic groups. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops opposed the initial mandate, as well as a compromise that U.S. President Barack Obama proposed.

"Today's proposal continues to involve needless government intrusion in the internal governance of religious institutions," the bishops wrote in response to Obama's suggestion. But the Sacred Heart students have expressed their support for the new mandate. "I'm all for it," said senior Felicia Hernandez. "It should be up to the individual whether they want to take contraceptives. The company that you work for provides your insurance, but it shouldn't be their business what you're being insured for."

Senior Samantha Cappelli feels that employment and insurance are linked too closely for companies to withhold contraceptives from their policies. "A lot of people take jobs because of the insurance plans that they provide," she said. "A person's insurance is too important for contraceptives to not be covered."

Public opinion polls seem to suggest approval of the Obama administration's policy. According to Reuters, a March 1 survey conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation showed that 63 percent of Americans support the mandate. This includes 60 percent of Catholics and 57 percent of evangelical Christians.

Last month, a student at the Georgetown University Law Center named Sandra Fluke testified before the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee. During her testimony, Fluke spoke about the financial problems that Georgetown students face because birth control is not covered by Georgetown's student health plan.

Conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh responded to the testimony by condemning Fluke, calling her a "slut" and a "prostitute." As a result of his remarks, several advertisers withdrew their support from Limbaugh's show. According to ArmyTimes.com, an online petition to remove the show from the U.S. government-sponsored Armed Forces Network has received over 25,000 signatures.

Cappelli says that policies such as the Obama administration's mandate are bound to evoke controversy and politically charged statements. "These are difficult issues," she said. "Obviously, people feel very passionately about them."

Greek Week brings fraternities and sororities together

...CONTINUED from page 1.

It's my first Greek Week ever, and I'm really excited to have a fun week with my sorority and win on Sunday at the Greek Olympics," said Lauren Bruno, a member of Zeta Tau Alpha. Last Sunday, Greek Life held a Mass for participants, followed by a single-elimination Family Feud tournament on Monday.

Yesterday was "Letter Day," and all Greek Life members were encouraged to wear their letters throughout the day. Tomorrow morning, there will be a breakfast held for all members.

Unity is one of the major themes of Greek Week, as well as simply having a good time. "Greek Week is about unifying all of the Greek organizations," said Bridgett Carter, president of the Panhellenic Council. "It rewards everyone for all of the hard work that they have done throughout the school year."

On Friday, Greek Life will host its annual skit night. Each organization will develop and perform their own skit, and will be judged on a list of criteria. At the end of the event, a winner is declared.

During Saturday's barbecue event, each member is required to bring two canned items to contribute to a food drive for St. Charles Food Pantry. Before the canned food is collected, each organization will compete in a scripture contest. The organization will be given a box of props with a count of thirty minutes to create a sculpture.

Sunday's event, Greek Olympics, will be the last event during Greek Week. Each organization will compete in various events including kickball, tug-o-war, a water balloon toss, relay race, and various minute-to-win-it games. Fraternities and sororities will compete separately, and two winners will be declared at the end of the event.

"At the end of the week, a Greek Week Fraternity and Sorority are declared based of the organizations who accumulated the greatest number of points," said Vital.

Sacred Heart's Greek Life is geared toward challenging and inspiring the student body in the classroom and beyond. "Our Greek community is home to nearly 450 students and includes six sororities and four fraternities," states the university's website. "Each of our Greek organizations is based on the principles of leadership, scholarship, service and sisterhood or brotherhood."

For Carter, expanding Greek Weekend into a full week allows members more time for fun and camaraderie. "It gives us more time to enjoy being a part of our organization, and allows us to reward all of the organizations for all of their hard work throughout the year with a fun week of activities," she said. "Greek Week is all about friendly competition and bringing organizations together, as well as Greek Life as a whole."

Greek Week brings fraternities and sororities together
“In terms of common core classes, I would definitely rather take an ‘easy A,’” said junior Maura Leathy. “Especially since, in my experience at least, some of the common core teachers tend to give the most work and grade the hardest.”

Other students agree that the need to have a balanced workload is important.

“I would rather take an ‘easy A’ class because a lot of my other classes are really hard and an ‘easy A’ class can help bring up my GPA,” said junior Sarah Delaney.

Some students feel that it is OK to be challenged over an entire course, and feel the outcome can be gratifying.

“If it is for my major, I would rather take something challenging because it is more important and it is what I am going to do in the future,” said sophomore Kevin Schumann.

Many students said that when they enjoy the classes, like ones for their major, they are more inclined to put in the extra effort.

“I really enjoy my major and all that it involves, so I don’t mind being challenged and putting in the time to do the work — as long as we’re fairly graded for that,” said Leathy.

Like Leathy, other students have the same mindset for the value of major coursework.

Students compare an ‘A’ paper versus an ‘F’ paper.

“I am better engaged in my major classes because they are what are most interesting to me,” said Delaney.

The classes a student chooses to take can play a role in producing the proper education.

“I prefer more difficult classes when it comes to my class schedule,” said freshman Natasha Klimoff. “The more difficult the class, the more rewarding the outcome can be.”

“Classes that are too easy and less challenging lack the substance that is needed to prepare me for my future,” said Members of the Sacred Heart community agreed that being challenged and enduring the hard work can pay off in the end.

“I would rather take a more rewarding class because it looks better on a transcript for applying to grad school,” said Ladner.

Overall, an offset between ‘easy A’ courses and rigorous ones seem to be the best fit when deciding on a schedule.

“In general, I like a mix of classes that will challenge me and give me an easy time each semester,” said Buchanan. “In all honesty, even my major classes feel like things I won’t use directly in the real world, so why not take an easy A?”

Perspectives

Taxing teachers vs. easy A for your GPA

Erin Marley
Staff Reporter

As registration for the fall 2012 semester quickly approaches, sophomore Catie Ladner plans to check the frequently used website RateMyProfessor.com before committing to any classes.

“I try to find the easiest teacher for common core classes because I always get the worst grades in those. They are the hardest and don’t really count for my degree,” said Ladner.

When choosing classes, Sacred Heart University students have a lot to take into consideration. Not only must students figure out which courses they are interested in, but they also must determine which classes they need to fulfill their degree.

On top of all that, the ever important factor of who is teaching the course typically tends to come into play.

“Usually the teacher is the reason you think a class will be easy or not,” said senior Brian Buchanan. “In the business school, certain ones have a rep for being ‘easy A teachers’ or ‘barely get a C teachers.’”

The reason behind whether or not to take an ‘easy A’ course can vary between students.

Senior Amanda Rivera finds the time to cook herself some dinner.

How do you do SHU?

Cooking

Amanda Rivera
Contributing Writer

Sometimes I wish I was Betty Crocker standing in a kitchen full of pink baking pans, donning a bright yellow apron with fake pearls in my ears. Then I realize I’m a Sacred Heart senior who does not have the free time to think of such luxuries.

To be blunt here, there are very few people that I know at school who cook all their own meals. Who has the time for all that?

The only exception would be if you’re studying to become a master chef and have to cook every meal you eat for practice. Then I can see someone cooking that much. However, last time I checked, Culinary Arts is not a major here at Sacred Heart.

Yes, I might bring out the tins helper and the mac & cheese on the weekends, but that’s about the extent of my cooking. I just don’t have the time to put aside 30 minutes or more to make an epic meal, eat it, and then clean up afterwards.

Now I’m not saying that I can’t cook, that’s absolutely not true. In fact, I can make an excellent lasagna. However, it’s just a bit foolish to expect me to roast a turkey in between running from class to my internship. That turkey needs attention I just can’t give it. When I want to cook, I usually just take an ‘easy A’ course because I don’t have the free time to think of such luxuries.

So what if we bribe people with cookies to become friends with us? You know what type of friends you get with cookies? The best kind of friends.

They smile, tell you how delicious the food is, and then they go back to their suite to play video games. That’s friendship at its finest.

While many students said that they still enjoy April Fool’s Day, they said their fondest memories were when they were a child.

“April Fool’s Day was the best when we were kids,” said junior Matt Tarducci. “I think we’ve outgrown it now, but I remember it just being one day in school when it was OK to joke around with the teacher and not get in trouble.”

Many students said that their childhood pranks usually included feeding their parents.

“When I was younger, my family always used to play jokes on each other,” said Ricci. “It was the one time a year when it was justified. We couldn’t get in trouble and mom and dad participated.”

Both students and staff said they feel they have outgrown the traditional holiday and will leave the April Fool-ing for children.

“Unfortunately, I don’t participate in the April Fool’s festivities,” said senior Meredith Foley. “I think if I tried, I would wind up laughing and ruining the prank, but the kids I babysit for get extremely excited for it.

“I don’t think they’ve ever done anything too extreme, but younger kids love just repeating ‘April Fool’s.’”

Although many students said that they’re not as into April Fool’s Day as they were when they were younger, they said it’s still a day to enjoy.

“I don’t really think into it much anymore, but I think it’s fun to hear what everyone else is doing.”

“Some people don’t think into it much anymore, but I think it’s fun to hear what everyone else is doing.”

“Long as no one gets hurt or in trouble, I think it’s good to laugh and not take things so seriously for a day,” said Ricci.

The exact origin of April Fool’s Day traditions is Clouded in mystery, but most said they wish they still participated in the tomfoolery.

“April Fool’s Day was the best when we were kids,” added Ricci. “I think we’ve outgrown it now, but I remember it just being one day in school when it was OK to joke around with the teacher and not get in trouble.”

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“I wish people still celebrated April Fool’s Day like they did when we were younger,” said Wrinn. “I remember getting so excited about pulling off the smallest pranks and feeling so accomplished if they worked out perfectly.

“It’s just fun a day and I think everyone should have the chance to experience it.”
This photograph provided by Joseph and Jane Clementi shows their son Tyler Clementi at a family function.

Rutgers student faces jail time

Caitlin McLaughlin
Staff Reporter

The former Rutgers University student convicted in a webcam spying case says that he was insensitive toward his gay roommate but not biased, and that he doesn’t think he was the reason for his roommate’s suicide.

Dharun Ravi, 20, was convicted last week of invasion of privacy and bias intimidation, a hate crime, after using a webcam to view a snippet of Tyler Clementi’s dorm-room liaison with another man, then tweeting about it. The case gained huge at-
tention when Clementi threw himself off a
bridge.

“I didn’t act out of hate, and I wasn’t uncomfortable with Tyler being gay,” Dha-
run Ravi told The Star-Ledger of Newark.

“Dharun Ravi targeted because of his sexual orientation. He told friends two days later that they could see streaming live video that right when Clementi was going to have his guest over again.

That second webcam never happened. On Sept. 22, Clementi jumped to his death from the George Washington Bridge connec-
ting New Jersey and New York City.

“I think it was a complete and total invasion of privacy,” said junior Catherine Glass.

“People have the right to do and feel whatever they want to.”

Ravi told The Star-Ledger he initially turned on his webcam from a friend’s com-
puter because he was concerned about the looks of Clementi’s guest, who was 30 at the time.

“If it was a girl who came to the room and she looked as strange as M.B., I would have done the same thing,” he said.

The 20-year-old told the newspaper that he didn’t think about what the spy-
ing would mean to his roommate. “I know that’s wrong,” he said, “but that’s the truth.”

He also said he decided not to go through with the spying on the night he told friends about it, saying he pointed his webcam away from his bed.

Prosecutors told jurors that it wasn’t Ravi who derailing the spying — but rather Clementi, who unplugged the computer.

“I think that Tyler Clementi’s death was a direct result of the video,” said Glass.

Ravi also said he wanted to talk with Clementi’s family but didn’t know what to
say.

“I’m very sorry about Tyler,” he told The Star-Ledger. “I have parents and a little brother, and I can only try to imagine how they feel. But I want the Clementis to know I had no problem with their son. I didn’t hate Tyler, and I knew he was OK with me.”

Ravi is to be sentenced May 21.

“I don’t agree with gay relationships, but I am definitely against bullying,” said Junior John Walters. “Everybody has a right to his or her own sexual orientation.”

The Associated Press contributed to this article.

He Said/She Said

How important is “wearing the pants” in a relationship?

Andrew Cresci
He said

The big running joke in every rela-
tionship (at least on the male end) is that age old question of who wears the pants in that relationship.

But to be honest, what exactly does this whole notion even mean? Does that one person make all the decisions? Or is that person controlling absolutely every aspect of the relationship?

I think the whole concept seems pret-
ty dumb.

In order for any relationship to work, it has to be a joint venture were both sides make decisions, and one person does not simply dominate every aspect. If one person was controlling the relationship, you can lose the other person and just go date
yourself.

Now I will be honest with you, I look more at the value of the decision or cur-
rent issue. Not everything is a big deal, and I don’t worth the potential for a massive argu-
ment.

If that means I’m throwing the pants to the other side, then so be it. I do not see the problem in that.

Looking back to my past, I have not gotten into many arguments with my sig-
ificant others over the course of my dat-
ing career. That’s because of compromise and encouragements from both sides of the relationship to make decisions rather than just doing on one person.

Nobody wants one person coming up with everything while some opinion-less zombie tags along.

Now once you leave school and de-
cide further down the road that you may want to get married, then hell, from all I have heard, that’s when pants wearing concept becomes an issue. Let’s be real, at this point, the ladies are wearing them.

Now guys, you can’t rub that last thought in my pants. Women do not want you to think you can control them. Everybody makes them out to be simpletons merely because they are

Nobody cares about your pants anymore. This concept becomes more important when comparing two people. If you wear the pants, then you must accept that the other person is just as important. There are much more serious issues in a relationship than estab-
lishing power titles.

Stephanie Tagliantinni
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Competition. It is natural, and inev-
itable in a relationship. Whether it is play-
ning simple board game, or comparing bank statements, competitiveness can turn into a feeling of “being more important.”

Is having something that makes you more important, in some regard, actually more important or beneficial in a relationship? How does this title get established, and why are we so concerned with it anyway?

I think that this title is mainly used in regard to whoever is “bringing home the bread” in the relationship. This is unfair, to put pressure on one sex over the other, as if F-es are a separate, different gender.

A woman and a man are equal in that regard. However, this “wearing the pants in the relationship” idea goes far beyond bringing home the money.

What other factors do we consider when saying one person “wears the pants” over the other in a relationship? As I have been researching this idea, I have stumbled

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Answering the tough questions

Mike Peterson
News Editor

In six short weeks I will be graduating and most likely looking at home for at least a few months after that, figuring out what's next.

During this time, I'm sure that I will run into several people whom I haven't seen in a long time.

These people will inevitably say "I can't remember — did you graduate?", the answer to which will result in a series of annoying follow-up questions.

In lieu of answering the same three or four questions from so many different people, I am writing my answers out ahead of time for everyone's mutual convenience:

- I graduated with a degree in political science. This should not come as a great surprise, as I've been telling you that was my major since the end of my freshman year.
- I'm not sure what I want to do after college. Obviously some sort of career in politics is an option, but I'm not dead-set on that.
- At the moment I don't plan on attending graduate school. (Grad school is often required some sort of career plan; my last answer should provide context for that.)

- Yes, I am applying for jobs.
- Yes, I am applying for lots of jobs.
- Yes, I am also living at home for the time being. Moving back in with my parents and brother will indeed be an adjustment, although it will be nice to enjoy home-cooked meals, as you will most certainly point out.
- I'm sure that your generic career suggestion is at least worth a look. I'm not quite sure that it's easy as you describe, but I'm glad that it worked out so well for that person you who tried it.
- I'm sure I'll "figure everything out," as you phrase it so thoughtfully. There has to be a job out there for me somewhere, as your (son / daughter / nephew / neighbor's child) was relieved to discover.
- I would be happy to answer any questions not related to any of these topics.

I am very interested in talking about any subjects that indicate original thought. I'm more than willing to give back what I take in.

These are my predetermined responses to each part of the post-college interrogation.

Please don't be offended if I simply hand you this list instead of taking the time to answer each question. I know that you mean well.

However, I will try and do a better job at professional convenience:

I'm not sure that it's easy as you describe, but I'm glad that it worked out so well for that person you who tried it.

I'm sure I'll "figure everything out," as you phrase it so thoughtfully. There has to be a job out there for me somewhere, as your (son / daughter / nephew / neighbor's child) was relieved to discover.

I would be happy to answer any questions not related to any of these topics.

I am very interested in talking about any subjects that indicate original thought. I'm more than willing to give back what I take in.

These are my predetermined responses to each part of the post-college interrogation.

Please don't be offended if I simply hand you this list instead of taking the time to answer each question. I know that you mean well.

Letter to the Editor

Christel J. Manning, PhD

Solutions for shopaholics

The other day I was at work and it was a slow day, so I decided to explore on Pinterest because it is the number one way to kill time.

For those who do not know, Pinterest is a semi-new type of social networking site. It is a big pin board where you can follow other people and their interests, as well as creating your own.

You can create your own pin board by organizing it into categories such as fashion, recipes, weddings, and much more. It is a fun way to discover different ideas.

As I was looking at the fashion section, I stumbled upon an outfit that I really liked and clicked to "repin it."

It sent me to a blog called "A Serious Southern Shopaholic."

The blog is about a college girl who has a serious shopping addiction, which I, and most girls, can relate to.

She posts all the different clothes she buys and where she gets them.

Each day she takes a picture of her outfit and says where each item she is wearing is from along with a link to the store site.

Her style is preppy chic. There is a lot of Lilly Pulitzer, Ralph Lauren, Jack Rogers, and Michael Kors.

Not only did I fall in love with all of the clothes she posted, but also she is a college student as well and gives different selections of similar pieces on different websites listed at other prices.

I noticed that she was posting a lot of things can be done online.

Social networking sites and even something like Pinterest can lead you to find the unimaginable and new interests you never knew existed.

If anyone is interested in seeing this site and her blog, the website is SeriousSouthernShopaholic.blogspot.com.

Check it out you won't regret it.

Editor's Choice

Morgan Mireski
Asst. Sports Editor

The Spectrum
818 1 Park Ave
Fairfield, CT 06825

Twitter: @SHU_spectrum
Facebook: Sacred Heart Newspaper
www.pioneerpulse.wordpress.com

Office Phone 203-371-7963
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www.sacredheartpectrum.com

I took this picture over the summer on my trip to Nantucket as we were leaving the island. I loved how the sunset reflected off of the water, and the overall range of colors in the photo.

shopaholics

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might view the decision less favorably.

Naming buildings after major donors is a common part of university life, and I have no problem with that. But open discourse about diversity and its donors.

versity and its donors.

Christel J. Manning, PhD

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Check it out you won't regret it.
SHU choir brings the ‘wondrous’ love

Kayley O'Brien
Staff Reporter

Students, family, friends, and faculty gathered into the Chapel of the Holy Spirit on Saturday, March 24 to watch the Sacred Heart University Choirs perform in the “Wondrous Love” concert.

Almost 200 singers took part in the show, from either the Concert Choir, UnFOURgettable, Pioneer Choir, 4 Heart Harmony, Spain Choir, or the Liturgical Choir.

Dr. John Michniewicz directed all six choirs that performed in the concert, and chose this year’s title based on a song of the same name.

“It seemed like a good name to describe the concert,” he said.

The Concert Choir, Pioneer, and Liturgical Choirs. Their first title performing the upbeat song titled “Jubilant Song,” which is translated to “Sing to the Lord a New Song.” The three choirs consisted of both men and women singing the anthem, as well as a pianist, a drummer, and a guitarist accompanying.

Sophomore Teresa Gagliostro performed triple duty, singing with the Liturgical, the Concert Choir, and the Spain Choir.

“Being a part of the concert is a lot of fun, but it also takes up a lot of time and practice,” she said. “In the end, I enjoy being apart of the choir so it is worth it.”

The 20 members of the Spain Choir, who performed in Spain during Spring break, performed the slow tempo song, “La Libertà,” a song with lyrics were written by Pope John Paul II.

The UnFOURgettable Choir, which consists of four female students, performed such songs as “Carry Me Through.” The upbeat song, accompanied by a guitarist, pianist, and drummer made the audience clap along.

The 4 Heart Harmony Choir, has both male and female members. The choir performed “The Lamb,” which is based on a poem. The other song that was performed by the choir was the upbeat song titled “He Never Failed Me Yet,” which is about an all-successful Jesus.

Freshman Stephanie Menier watched the concert as a preview of what her next semester will be like at Sacred Heart.

“I enjoyed the concert a lot because I am joining choir next year. So it was a good experience to be able to see what I will be doing,” she said. “Also, it was really nice to see everyone who came out, and came together to support and watch the choirs perform.”

The last song of the night was performed by all six choirs combined and is called “Jubilate Deo.” The song, translated as, “O be Joyful in the Lord,” got the audience clapping and was the perfect way for the audience to show their wondrous love for the night’s evening.

Dr. Michniewicz recognizes the hard work put into preparing for the concert, and is proud of his singers.

“Directing and preparing for this concert tonight takes a lot of work, it takes time to perfect the music, and make it great,” he said. “But the practice that went into the concert really shawed and made it great, which is why I am really glad with how everything turned out.”

---

Student Art Gallery

Top left: Jackie Fede poses with her illustration. Top right: Judy Downs with her artwork. Bottom left: The chess piece was created by Chris Balzano.
Greek goes Irish to shamus the runway

Kappa Delta combines St. Patty’s Day, fashion, and charity

Johanna Osvensk
Staff Reporter

What do you get when you combine St. Patrick’s Day festivities and fashion? The answer — Shamrock the Runway.

On March 18, the Kappa Delta Eta Nu chapter of Sacred Heart University, held its third annual Shamrock the Runway event in the Edgerton Theatre for the Performing Arts. Students strutted their stuff down the runway in order to raise money to prevent child abuse in America.

“That’s so great about the show is that we get people from various parts of the SHU community involved,” said sophomore and Kappa Delta sister Brooke Hadfield.

Those who walked the runway were not professional models, but played the part for the night. Participants included athletes, other sorority and fraternity members, and students from other various campus clubs. They rocked the runway in casual clothing, swimwear, and formal attire.

Although it was a fun event for both the models and the audience, the real purpose of Shamrock the Runway is to raise money for a cause.

Kappa Delta split 100 percent of the proceeds between two charities. Eighty percent of the money raised from the show went to The Battered Women and Children’s shelter in Bridgeport and the other 20 percent went to National Prevent Child Abuse America.

“I think that Kappa Delta does a great job in raising money for child abuse prevention,” said senior Alex Gonzalez, a brother of Omega Phi Kappa and runway participant.

Even members from different sororities rocked the runway to support the cause.

“We understand how hard these girls work, and we love to contribute any way we can,” said sophomore Arianna Narayan, a Zeta Tau Alpha sister.

Though the cause behind the event was a heavy one, Shamrock the Runway kept the mood light.

A crowd favorite of the night was the swimsuit section as the models gave the audience a preview of the upcoming swimwear fashions.

Senior and Kappa Delta sister Jenna Maisel suited up in a two piece bikini and strutted down the stage with a water gun in hand. Suddenly, audience members in the front row were shrieking as they were being sprayed with water.

“It’s all in good fun,” said Maisel. “You have to have fun while doing this, otherwise you are going to look awkward.”

For the final part of the show, models took the stage in their best suits and dresses for a more formal aspect of the show. Some of the female participants modeled in their prom dresses from high school.

Confidence was definitely apparent in all of the models as they smiled and laughed.

Maisel said, “Our sorority promotes confidence among women, so I wanted to prove that you can be confident and have fun, even when you’re doing something that may be nerve racking.”

HBO’s ‘Luck’ proves not to be so lucky

TV drama is shut down after three horse deaths

Jeff Daley
Staff Reporter

“Leaves nothing to chance.” That was the tagline for HBO’s foal shoot “Luck.” However, creator David Milch left too much to chance during the production of his show, which focused on the sport of horse racing.

On Sunday, March 25 HBO aired the series finale.

According to the Associated Press, the show was canceled after three horses got injured and were euthanized during the last 10 months of filming.

Two horses were put down after they sustained serious injuries while filming a racing scene, suffering head trauma after she slipped backwards and hit her head.

“It is our responsibility as human beings to help and protect them,” said associate professor of communication and media studies, Dr. Debbie Danowski, who volunteers for a rescue farm called, H.O.R.S.E of Connecticut.

Sophomore and member of the equestrian team Margaret Vogel was saddened by the news of the horse deaths, but doesn’t think it should reflect poorly on real horse racing.

“The death of a horse is a big loss in any industry that we put animals through, but I think that there are a lot of good people in the industry that take the well being of the horses into consideration,” she said. “I think that we need to judge the industry not only on those who treat the horses poorly, but also on those who treat them well.”

According to the Associated Press, the show was canceled after three horses got injured and were euthanized during the last 10 months of filming.

The action begins when Katniss Everdeen, a girl on fire.

Kings are chosen by the capital, and the one who is chosen becomes a tribute, and the two go off to represent District 12 in the games.

Males and females, ages 12 through 18, from each of the districts are placed in a drawing and chosen at random during Reaping Day. Although the selection process seemed to be fair, I found it rather confusing. Unlike the book, the film didn’t explain why some names were placed more than once in the drawing.

The film revolves around a girl named Katniss Everdeen, played by Jennifer Lawrence, who lives in District 12, the poorest of 12 districts in the country of Panem. Every year, as a punishment for a past rebellion, officials in the capital put the districts in a drawing and choose a boy and girl from each district.

“The Hunger Games’ really keeps you at the edge of your seat, and your eyes glued to the screen.

The movie is not just about the gore and violence of the games. They had the ability to create fireballs, and even beast-like creatures to enhance drama and add excitement.

The film is about the gore and violence of the games, but also love and the bonds of friendship. Katniss struggles to decide what is more important, love or life.

Get Reel gives ‘The Hunger Games’...
SHU Choir sings their heart out in Spain

Konstantine Dekaneas
Staff Reporter

Thirty-one Sacred Heart University Choir students ventured to Spain just a few weeks ago, singing in Cathedrals and a monastery in Barcelona and Valencia, Spain.

Under the direction of Dr. John Michniewicz, and with the assistance of Galen Tate, the Choir performed with others from the University of Barcelona and the Monastery of Monserrat.

Additionally, they performed at Santa Maria del Pi, a 1,000-year-old gothic church in Barcelona.

The Monastery of Monserrat is one of the most renowned monasteries not only in Spain, but in the world. Sacred Heart’s Choir performed after a famous boys choir who has been studying and performing at the monastery for years.

“It was quite a historic place. While up in the mountains you take in the clean air, it’s just amazing,” said Michniewicz. “It was thrilling to perform with a Choir where famous musicians came from as well.”

During the group’s time abroad, they experienced new culture in all aspects.

“Aside from the music, the most interesting experience was the food. The students were able to try a traditional Spanish dish called ‘paella,’ said Michniewicz.

Students also enjoyed sightseeing in between singing.

“Just walking around the city and seeing everything first hand was one of my favorite things that we did,” senior Caitlin Pinto said.

“Talking to the locals was really cool as well. Trying to speak Spanish and them trying to speak back in English was a funny experience, but I loved hearing about the city from an actual resident,” she said.

For some of the students on the trip, this was their first experience enjoying European cuisine, as well as their first overseas choir trip.

“It was nice to see that we got nearly 25 students on the trip. Although the students had to pay for the trip as a personal expense with little fundraising, it showed their dedication to what they love,” said Michniewicz.

Prior to performing in Spain, Sacred Heart’s choirs have performed in Boston, Florida, Rhode Island, and New York.

This year, the choir performed next to ground zero in New York City at the Marriott Hotel in memory of 9/11 victims.

“It was a one in a lifetime experience. Although the students felt an emotional toll with the performance, they got a great experience out of it,” said Michniewicz of the 9/11 concert.

After the performance, the choir was able to meet Secretary of State, Hilary Clinton.

That, in addition to the reaction from victims’ families, made the event even more memorable.

“Families were more than thankful for the students’ performance. It was an act of patriotism from everyone that was there,” said Michniewicz.

Michniewicz was appointed the Director of the Sacred Heart Choir in 2004, and has seen the group grow over the years.

“The choir has come a long way since 2004. When I first came, there were only 35 members. Now, there are nearly 190,” he said.

In the future, Michniewicz plans to take another trip overseas to Ireland to experience a different taste of music.

“It was the experience of a lifetime. Getting to see everything overseas was exiting in itself and being able to experience it with my choir members is what just made it even better,” said Pinto. “Plus, the places we sang at were breathtaking. It was incredible for all of us.”

For spring break Sacred Heart’s Choir spent their week singing in both Barcelona and Valencia, Spain.

Photo Courtesy of John Michniewicz

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Features 11

Kimberly Woodruff  
Staff Reporter

How do you know when you’ve met “the one”?  
For many, true love finds you when you’re not looking. And when it comes to finding a soul mate in college, you can either run in the opposite direction or embrace it.  
“When I was little, I used to dream of what it would be like,” said senior Jane Taikina.  
Throughout the past few years, Taikina realized that her dream as a little girl would not come true in her college years.  
“I’m not someone who needs someone else to make myself feel better,” she said.  
Though Taikina never met her true love in college, she hopes to meet him through her career, or through mutual friends in the future. She has ambitions to start a family within the next 10 years after having a stable job in occupational therapy.  
For junior Erin Dowling and her boyfriend Greg Aydelotte, freshman year was the beginning of their future together.  
The couple met in 2009 after attending a resident hall floor activity where they baked a cake with their peers.  
While Dowling was confused about the Canadian measuring cup given to her to determine the right amount of ingredients, Aydelotte came to her rescue in the kitchen.  
The couple started dating in January of 2010, and they are very committed to each other.  
“We have promise rings and we plan to be together for a long time. Obviously, when we get out of college, it’s probably going to be hard because of jobs. We’ll go wherever it takes us and in time it will come together,” Dowling said.  
Last December, the two bought a puppy together when they were out at the pet store.  
Aydelotte had always wanted a puppy and Dowling willingly accepted.  
When they knew they would want a dog, Dowling explained that it is definitely harder to spend time out since their new dog is only a puppy.  
“It’s hard to go out to dinner or to the movies because he will be alone, but I think it’s definitely something that we bond over. We love him a lot, and that is something we share,” she said.  
While Dowling and Aydelotte have plans to be together for a long time, sophomore Marissa Lovler said she feels unsteady about jumping into a relationship with someone.  
“I’m happy with me. I can be myself,” she said.  
As only a sophomore, Lovler has the next few years to see where life takes her.  
“I’m not going to base my life off a person I don’t even know exists yet. Hopefully we just cross paths,” she said.  
Senior Courtney Shropshire was lucky enough to find someone during her college years.  
“As far as finding a soul mate in college, you wish it, but you don’t expect it. We just knew,” Shropshire said.  
She and her boyfriend work a long distance relationship after he transferred to another college. Together, they are very logical, and work on communicating well.  
“We both find that when we have problems, we talk to each other about it. If you don’t have a mental relationship, you can’t have a lasting relationship,” she said.  
Shropshire and her boyfriend plan to get engaged within a few years after graduation. And after being together for the past four years, they are ready to marry as soon as possible.  
“We are definitely very in love,” she said. “We don’t believe that love is only the fireworks and big moments in your life. It’s about the small things and going through things together.  
“We never expect anything out of each other, but we appreciate when things are done for each other.”

Mesa makes mouths water for Mexican  
Dana Maltese  
Staff Reporter

The Spectrum/Kim Woodruff

Students enjoy salsa, soup, and spice at Mesa restaurant on Black Rock.

Sometimes our regular routine meals can become a bore, but if you like the bold flavors of Mexican cuisine try Mesa, a relatively new restaurant located at 2320 Black Rock Turnpike in Fairfield.

My guest and I walked in and were seated near the back of the dining room in a comfortably cushioned booth.

Our waiter Luis greeted us and told us of Mesa’s ladies night special, which was an offer for $5 margaritas, and glasses of sangria. For anyone looking for a good night of inexpensive drinks, this could be a place to start.

We decided to pass on the margaritas and looked over the menu. While we were contemplating what to order, tortilla chips were brought to the table accompanied by fresh salsa.

We chose to start with an order of guacamole. With a generous portion our first course satisfied us, but some salt needed to be added, which the chef may not want to hear.

Next we sampled one of Mesa’s varieties of soups. I ordered the tortilla soup with savory pastilla chile, chicken broth, marinated roasted chicken, and avocado, topped with crunchy strips of tortilla chips and crema fresca. It came to the table piping hot and we thoroughly enjoyed its spiciness.

For my main course, I settled on the taco sampler. The menu offers the option of choosing three different types served with green rice and black beans, topped with fresco cheese for just $9.95.

I ordered one “baja,” or fish taco, one “bistec” taco, and one “pollo tings” taco.

While I enjoyed them all, the fish taco will be my first choice if I return. It was a crispy, beer battered tilapia topped with Mexican coleslaw and chipotle aioli.

We also opted to try the shishkabob which was grilled beef on a skewer along with green peppers, onion, serrano, and chile.

While we did enjoy most of our meal, the portions at Mesa may not be the best if you’re looking for a light dinner. The entrees are also priced high for the average college student, ranging from $14.95 to $22.95.

After eating like kings we decided against getting a dessert (bikini season is right around the corner). Overall, we did enjoy our meal.

And although Mesa accommodates families, its prices may make it a rare treat for the college crowd.

Greg Aydelotte and Erin Dowling fell in love their freshman year and have been together since.

March 28, 2012

The Spectrum/Dana Maltese

Mesa is located on Black Rock turnpike and offers Mexican cuisine for all to enjoy.
Erica Spessot
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University men's lacrosse team finished up their non-conference schedule this past week with a win and a loss on Campus Field.

On Wednesday March 21, Sacred Heart took on the University of Hartford, winning 18-9, but fell to St. John's University 13-8 on Saturday, March 24.

"Any instate game is considered a big game for us. When we win especially against a rivalry team like Hartford, it's a great feeling," said senior Chris Casey. "Losing against St. John's is hard, beating us two years in a row stings even more."

It was a team effort for the Pioneers as Sacred Heart got their third win in their past four games.

Less than three minutes into the game, Hartford's Tate Klidonas scored a short-handed goal, putting the Hawks up by one.

Casey responded, tying the game at 5:19. Only 45 seconds later senior Matt Ferrino followed up with another goal on the man-up opportunity.

With only 1:56 left in the half, Casey scored his second goal of the game, putting Sacred Heart up again by three with goals at the 8:17 and 3:45 marks.

At 8:25 Marquis scored two goals giving the Hawks a chance to tie at 3:13.

"It was a great win for our guys because we really had to work hard and stay focused even to the last seconds as they made a rally at the end," said Lupo. "That will help us going forward in league play when we face some talented teams."

Sacred Heart jumped right back in the action on Saturday, March 24, as they took on St. John's University Red Storm.

The Pioneers fell to 3-5 on the season after they suffered a 13-8 loss to close out their non-conference games.

"St. John's was a tough loss because it would have been a great win to build some momentum into our conference games," said sophomore Matt Gannon. "I believe we have a great group of guys on our team and that we will begin playing our best lacrosse against our NEC opponents."

Senior Matt King struck first for the Pioneers, scoring off an assist from Gannon just over a minute into the game.

The Red Storm's Alex Lagodich and Harry Kutner quickly responded with two goals for their first lead of the game.

This would last only a few seconds as the Pioneers scored their second goal tying the game. St. John's then responded with another goal giving them a one-goal advantage at the end of the first quarter.

Pioneers Lupo and Gannon tied the game, teaming up for the first goal of the quarter. Terence Leach of St. John's scored a man-up opportunity, but Sacred Heart stepped up in the final three minutes of the half scoring three goals in a row.

"For the St. John's game I was upset we lost. We had a great start to the game, but when it came to the third quarter we seemed to shut down and could not get any momentum going," said Marquis.

Though leading the game 6-4, Sacred Heart had a rough second half. After a scoreless third quarter, the Pioneers suffered from a five-goal run from St. John's.

Goals from Red Storm's Leach, Kieran McArtle and Charlie Holenstien gave them a 7-6 lead heading into the final quarter.

St. John's scored twice off the stick of Kevin Cemuto putting them up 9-6, before the Pioneers ended their five-goal run.

At 8:25 Marquis scored off a steal closing the gap to 9-7, but three more goals from the Red Storm put St. John's up for good. Leach scored his fourth goal of the night along with goals by Holenstien and Ryan Fitzgerald with 2:52 left in the game.

A final goal from Ferrino would not be enough for Sacred Heart as the Red Storm finished the game 13-8.

"The season has had many ups and downs along the way," said Mawdsley. "But we are a team that works hard and can only improve as the season goes on."

Head coach Thomas Mariano echoes the statement.

"So far this season we have shown that when we play as a team with the same goal, we play well," said Mariano. "We are looking forward to starting NEC play next weekend."

Sacred Heart opens the NEC play Mar. 31 in Rhode Island against the Bryant Bulldogs.
Behind the Scenes: NCAA Hockey Regionals at Bridgeport

Kathryn Cooper
Staff Reporter

Teams came from far and wide to play in the NCAA ice hockey regional tournament at Webster Bank Arena, in Bridgeport this past weekend.

It was fortunate enough to work this event last year, so when the time came again to volunteer for the tournament, I made sure I was first on the list. I worked with the Athletic Communications directors from Fairfield University and Yale University, who were the host schools for the tournament.

My first task of the day on Thursday was to get my credential at the media entrance. After that, I was off to check out the schedule for the day.

Michigan State was the first team to arrive. They practiced from 11:30-12:30. After an intense practice, I, along with the other volunteers, escorted the players to the press conference room to answer a few questions from the media.

Union was the second team to arrive and practiced from 12:45-1:45. I then escorted them to the press conference room.

Union had a lot of players that were interviewed. My job was to keep an eye on the players and escort them to each individual reporter.

The third team to arrive was UMass Lowell. They had the same schedule as the first two teams.

The final team to arrive was Miami of Ohio.

After all four teams left, we packed up with 15 and a percentage of .400 (15-1-35). He also contributed three service aces. Sophomore Enzo Mackenzie added another 12 kills.

After falling behind early in the first set, the Pioneers responded in the second set, handing Harvard their only loss on the night, ending the set with a score of 25-16. Harvard finally ended the third set at 25-22 after swapping leads seven times.

The Pioneers did not put much of a fight in the fourth set. Harvard had a hitting percentage of .423 (15-4-26) in the fourth set, which finalized the win.

"The down moments are what get into our heads, if we look out of them as a team our goal will be easier to reach," said Borsay. The X-Men fell to Sacred Heart 23-18, only a single score difference.
Bertony Jean-Louis represents SHU in NCAA Indoor Championships

Sophia Destrugo
Staff Reporter

As only the second Pioneer in history to compete at the NCAA Indoor Championship for Sacred Heart University’s track and field team, senior Bertony Jean-Louis will leave behind his legacy when he graduates in May.

The track and field program was founded 18 years ago by head coach Christian Morrison. “We’ve had many good athletes in our program over the years,” said Morrison. “Bertony is unique. He is not just a good athlete. He is a great student and a good citizen who has worked very hard for his success.”

The first person to ever compete at the NCAA Championships for Sacred Heart’s track and field program was Arman Dixon. He competed in the 200 and 400 meter races and later went on to the U.S. Olympic Trials in 2008.

“When I sit back and think, it’s definitely a good feeling knowing I’m only the second Pioneer to make it,” said Jean-Louis. “I am using it as motivation to work harder this upcoming outdoor track and field season.”

Jean-Louis, a 22-year-old native of Haiti, has been an integral part of the track and field team for the past four years. His hard work and dedication have earned him the respect and admiration of his peers and coaches.

“Bertony has made the most of his talents and abilities during his four years here,” said Morrison. “This makes him eligible to compete for Haiti in this summer’s Olympics. There is a possibility he may be asked to represent Haiti in the 110 meter hurdles.”

Jean-Louis already has made a name for himself within the community.

“Bertony represents the pride of Haiti in the United States,” said Morrison. “He’ll be heading onto the next phase of his life with no regrets, and as a coach that makes me feel great about the way things have gone.”

Regardless of whether he qualifies for the Olympics or not, Jean-Louis is looking forward to a successful career and will miss all that Sacred Heart had to offer him.

“I’ve built a really strong network of friends and faculty that I plan to stay in touch with well after college is over with,” he said. “Hopefully, great things will come of it.”

Women’s lax 2-0 in conference play

Ammaranie A’Hearn
Staff Reporter

The women’s lacrosse team opened Northeast Conference play this past weekend in style by winning both of their games.

Sacred Heart University defeated Long Island University in convincing fashion by a 22-8 score on Friday.

The momentum carried over to Sunday as they toppled Wagner 12-10.

“This weekend was a great way for the 2012 team to open up conference play,” said senior Kate Kmietz. “After a series of tough non-conference competitions during our preseason it was nice to see everything we’ve been working on in practice and really focusing on come together.”

On Friday, the Pioneers scored a season-high 22 goals, on 36 shots on goal.

Senior Aurelie Pluijmakers led the team with eight goals and freshman goalie Kelly Keenan made 11 saves in the win.

Senior Alyssa Dorsev scored a goal less than a minute into the game.

The team’s momentum continued with back-to-back goals from sophomore Kelsey Russo.

Dorsev added another goal, making the score 11-0 going into the half. Russo could have gotten on the board.

LIU finally ended the Pioneers spree at 12:38, however Sacred Heart retaliated by scoring three goals to bring their lead up 9-1.

The Blackbird’s struggle to come back continued and they could only manage to close the lead to 10-4 before the Pioneers’ seniors Katlin Rochler and Kmietz’s goals increased the Pioneers lead to 12-4 at the end of the first half.

LIU scored three of the first five goals of the second half to cut Sacred Heart’s lead down to 14-7.

Sacred Heart rebounded and closed the game by scoring eight of the last nine goals.

The 22-8 defeat dropped the Blackbirds record to 0-8 on the season.

“Our game versus LIU was a great start for us, we really came together as a team, working with each other’s strengths to capitalize and ultimately come out with a win,” said Kmietz. “Coming off of a win versus LIU definitely gave us confidence and momentum that carried into our win versus Wagner on Sunday.”

The Pioneers continued build on their momentum to win the second conference game against Wagner by a score of 12-10.

Russo led the team in goals with four, while Pluijmakers and Rochler added two each.

Sophomore Samantha Villafranca scored an unassisted goal to give the Pioneers a 5-2 lead at 14:04 of the first half.

Sacred Heart’s 5-2 lead was quickly turned around by a 5-0 run by Wagner to close out the half.

The team’s went into the locker room with the Pioneers leading 7-5.

Sacred Heart got themselves back into the game by scoring five of the first six goals of the second half to take a 9-8 lead with 10:53 to play in the game.

Pluijmakers, Rochler, Russo and Dorsev each tallied goals during the remainder of the game.

Regardless of whether he qualifies for the Olympics or not, Jean-Louis is looking forward to a successful career and will miss all that Sacred Heart had to offer him.

“I’ve built a really strong network of friends and faculty that I plan to stay in touch with well after college is over with,” he said. “Hopefully, great things will come of it.”

Jean-Louis is his own hardest critic, as he is the first to notice and try to correct his mistakes.

“Rarely am I satisfied with my races, regardless of whether it’s a win or not,” he said. “There’s usually always something I could have done better in terms of my technique and form.”

Jean-Louis is graduating with a double major in accounting and finance.

“I take pride in being able to balance my athletic and academic careers successfully at the same time,” he said. “This pretty big accomplishment for me.”

Jean-Louis already has a job lined up at an accounting firm after he graduates this May.

“I will be working at KPMG within their auditing division,” he said. “I also plan to obtain my Certified Public Accountants license and start studying for the GMAT’s for grad school.”

As for his track career, Jean-Louis has great hopes.

“I would love to make track and field my profession,” he said. “That’s my dream.”

Coach Morrison is currently in communication with the Republic of Haiti track and field team regarding this summer’s 2012 London Olympic Trials.

“While Bertony is an American citizen, born in the USA, both of his parents are originally from Haiti,” said Morrison. “This makes him eligible to compete for Haiti in this summer’s Olympics. There is a possibility he may be asked to represent Haiti in the 110 meter hurdles.”
Sophomore hurler Kody Kerski (#34) fires a pitch in his complete game shutout against Mount St. Mary’s last Saturday.

Pioneers sweep The Mount in four game series

Dan Otzel
Asst. Sports Editor

As the schedule turns over to conference play, the defending Northeast Conference champions are starting to hit their stride.

After a split with Central Connecticut State University, the Sacred Heart University baseball team welcomed the University of Rhode Island and Mount St. Mary’s University to Harbor Yard in Bridgeport last week.

Last Wednesday, Sacred Heart (7-13, 6-2 NEC) dropped a non-conf game tune-up to Rhode Island (9-12, 2-1 Atlantic 10).

Sacred Heart rebounded just days later when they swept two doubleheaders against NEC foe Mount St. Mary’s (6-18, 0-8 NEC) on the heels of strong starting pitching and clutch hitting.

Rhode Island squeezed past Sacred Heart with two ninth inning runs on Wednesday, for a 7-5 victory.

The non-conf game tune-up, a chance for both squads to rest some starters and for both teams to work for Sacred Heart, with a four-game series leading into the NEC champs again. For us to get the sweep was huge, and really not play great, is a tribute to the talent and work ethic that we have,” said Giaquinto.

Chevy led the Sacred Heart baseball team with two of the Mountaineer hits. Sophomore righty Robbie Maguire went 4 2/3 innings giving up one unearned run on four hits and punching out five.

Junior reliever Liam Rafferty (1-0) pitched a scoreless 11th for the win.

That would be all the support Leininger and his defense would need.

Behind Leininger, Boisture made two incredible catches in right, furthering his defensive legend that began in last year’s NCAA Tournament Regional.

Senior second baseman Chris Dionisio (0-1) blew the game in the ninth, and got the loss, when his fourth wild pitch of the day sent home the winning run.

Sacred Heart junior shortstop John Murphy filled the stat sheet, including two stolen bases, making him a perfect 7-7 for the season.

“IT’s a big factor,” said Murphy of his speed. "Last year, I wasn’t as fast. I worked hard in the summer. Just being on first base is a threat and the defense has to be on their toes.”

After the tune-up, it was back to NEC work for Sacred Heart, with a four-game weekend sweep against Mount St. Mary’s.

Due to potential inclement weather, the series was rescheduled into two doubleheaders, the first on Friday.

Game 1’s winner, Sacred Heart junior ace Troy Scribner (2-3), went 7 1/3 innings, yielding four runs on seven hits and striking out seven, guiding his team to a 10-5 win.

The Mountaineers got a run in the first and another in the second before the Pioneer bats exploded for 10 runs in the game, highlighted by a five-run fifth where Murphy added a two RBI double.

Sacred Heart junior right fielder Dave Boisture drove in three runs with two hits and junior catcher Mark Quaranta had a RBI and a run scored for The Mount.

Pioneer starting pitching was once again the factor in Game 2 on Friday.

Sophomore starter Nick Leininger (2-1) pitched a complete game, four hitter, which was his second straight complete game, scattering a run in the fourth and one in the seventh for a 4-2 victory.

The Pioneers started the scoring in the first on an RBI ground out by junior left fielder Connor McEvoy.

In the next inning, with two outs and the sacks loaded, Murphy cleared the bases with a triple, putting Sacred Heart up 4-0.

That would be all the support Leininger and his defense would need.

Behind Leininger, Boisture made two incredible catches in right, furthering his defensive legend that began in last year’s NCAA Tournament Regional.

Senior second baseman Michael Fosso, who was in last year’s NEC champs again. For us to get the sweep was huge, and really not play great, is a tribute to the talent and work ethic that we have,” said Giaquinto.

Chevy led the Sacred Heart baseball team with two of the Mountaineer hits. Sophomore righty Robbie Maguire went 4 2/3 innings giving up one unearned run on four hits and punching out five.

Junior reliever Liam Rafferty (1-0) pitched a scoreless 11th for the win.

Sacred Heart starting pitching was once again the factor in Saturday’s Game 2, as sophomores righty Kody Kerski (1-3) pitched a complete game shutout for a 2-0 win.

Sacred Heart started pitching was once again the factor in Saturday’s Game 2, as sophomores righty Kody Kerski (1-3) pitched a complete game shutout for a 2-0 win.

"My mindset was just to get the final win and the sweep,” said Kerski. "I located my fastball and kept them off balance with my off speed stuff.”

Kerski’s five hitter was supported by two Pioneer runs.

In the fourth, Boisture hit a RBI single, and in the next inning, sophomore catcher Derick Horn hit a sacrifice fly to left.

"We’re extremely happy,” said Giaquinto. "But, the guys know that we still have some work to do if we’re going to take this thing down to the wire and be the NEC champs again. For us to get the sweep and really not play great, is a tribute to the talent and work ethic that we have.”

Iona College of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference comes to Harbor Yard for another midweek test today at 3:30 p.m.

On Friday, Sacred Heart travels to Teaneck, N.J. to take on NEC rival Fairleigh Dickinson University for a four game weekend set.

“We’re away at Fairleigh Dickinson,” said Giaquinto. "They’re a much improved team over last year. Their coach is doing a nice job putting that team together and they have a couple of real solid arms. Every weekend in the conference is a dogfight.”

Currently, the Pioneers are second in the NEC behind Bryant University. Fairleigh Dickinson is sixth with a 4-4 conference record.

Sacred Heart’s next home game is on April 17 against Yale at Harbor Yard. First pitch is 3:30 p.m.
Shutting out The Mount

Sophomore Kody Kerski (#34) threw a complete game shutout in the Pioneers' 2-0 win Saturday afternoon against Mount St. Mary's at Harbor Yard.