Alumni: Heart of Homecoming

Jenna Rignanese
Staff Reporter

The countdown to kickoff begins. Homecoming and Alumni Weekend are a few days away. Are you ready to show your Pioneer pride? Football is not the only key event on Saturday. But this weekend marks the return of Sacred Heart Alumni for two days of fun and festivities.

The Alumni Staff and Student Life invites all past students of Sacred Heart who have graduated and left the campus life to return and reminisce about their college days.

This weekend not only includes Homecoming events for current students, but provides alumni with access to various activities, such as the football game, catered banquets and special events.

“Homecoming is great,” said Marie Donahue, Director of Parent Relations. “Alumni come back to their alma mater and catch up with former classmates and they get to see how the university has changed.”

Donahue’s committee works hard to make sure every Alumni Weekend is memorable and exciting. Even though Alumni and Parent Relations plan other events such as formal dinners, golf tournaments, banquets, and lectures, Donahue finds that Homecoming is one of the most important events of the year.

This Saturday kicks off a weekend geared towards the young and the old, the past, present and future of Sacred Heart.

This year, Friday, Sept. 29, at 9 a.m., an alumni tent with food, face painting and a kid’s corner will be set up in the Faculty Parking Lot.

Are you ready for this weekend’s events?

During this time, there will also be tailgating in a designated area in the Faculty Lot, where the group with the most people will receive some exciting prizes.

The Alumni Brunch will be held at 10:30 a.m. and costs $15 per person. At the brunch, three to four alumni will be recognized for their strength and hard work throughout the Sacred Heart community.

The events for Homecoming and Alumni Weekend continue at 11:30 a.m. when the creative and colorful Homecoming Parade consisting of numerous SHU clubs and organizations makes its way up to the tent to show off Sacred Heart spirit.

“I can’t wait for Alumni Weekend,” said Zak Kepner, 2006 graduate, Largo, Fla. “I am looking forward to it because a lot of my old friends moved back home after graduation and they are all coming for the game. It should be a great time!”

The football game against Wagner College begins at 1 p.m. Red and white will decorate the stands as the roar of the marching band, chants of the cheerleaders, rumble of the football team and roar of the fans fills the air.

Pioneer souvenirs will be on sale inside the gate and food packages provided by FLIK called “Huddles” which contain hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks and snacks will be available to purchase for See FOOTBALL on page 2.

Be you own SHUper star

Courtney Kohloff
Staff Reporter

Are you fashion forward? Do you have the best dorm room or ultimate off campus house?

The Sacred Heart Pioneer Magazine wants you.

For the upcoming issue of the Pioneer that will hit stands this November, the staff is conducting a model search and looking for the best spots to live and relax for the Pioneer “Place To Be” contest.

Male and female modeling contestants who are chosen for the magazine will be featured in numerous shots in a cover story that deals with the “do’s and don’ts” of what to wear on a job interview.

“I have never been on a formal interview before, so this article will definitely help me decide what I should be looking like on my first interview,” said Joe McNamara, junior, New York City. “I don’t really know what I have to go by are just by what I hear and see on television, but nothing from real students in the same situation that I am in.”

Models will define to the Sacred Heart community what interview style really is, whether applying at a retail store or respected corporation. First impressions are everything and Pioneer wants to help you make the right one. No sweatsuits or jeans here modeling contestants. Applicants will be dressed in sophisticated business attire for this photo shoot.

Nice jeans with a top or black pants with a blazer for girls? Khaki pants with a Polo or black pants with a shirt and tie for guys? The pressures of actually going on an interview are stressful enough and your wardrobe choice should not be one of them.

The Pioneer wants all fashion divas and dudes to show everyone how easy it can be to look your best with their interview wardrobe layout in the Style section of the magazine.

Throughout the next few weeks, the Pioneer staff will be accepting contestants for the model search. Applicants should send up to three tasteful photographs of themselves with their contact information. This could be your big break.

“We are looking for models of all shapes and sizes. No specific; look is required,” said Gina Saccaro, junior, Long Island, N.Y. “No modeling experience is required, either. If you think you have what it takes, then don’t miss this opportunity.”

“Not only is this modeling opportunity great for helping students decide what to wear on an interview, it is also a great experience to meet new people on campus.”

See PIONEER on page 3.

Congressional campaign makes a pit stop on campus

Britany Price
Staff Reporter

Next Connecticut campaign stop: Sacred Heart.

Diane Farrell. Democratic candidate for Congress in Connecticut’s 4th District, made a campaign stop at SHU last Thursday. The event took place in the Faculty Lounge and was sponsored by College Democrats.

Farrell is challenging Christopher Shays who is seeking his tenth full term. According to Farrell, this is her second time challenging Shays after coming up four percentage points shy of winning the election in 2004.

Farrell’s political platform was primarily focused on the war on Iraq. She was aggressive in attacking the incumbent Christopher Shays for his support of the war.

“[Diane Farrell] has the right attitude and approach that Americans are looking for,” said Andrew Rowan, junior, Vice President of College Democrats, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. “Considering what has happened in the past six years when dealing with fiscal spending and the war on Iraq,” Farrell told students and faculty that she wants a strategy to win this war, not a catch phrase.

“The situation on the ground in Iraq deteriorates daily, an area that hasn’t been a haven for terrorists now is and we still have no strategy” said Farrell. “A timetable is not an exit strategy.

“A strategy must start with diplomacy and negotiation; we need a political solution to the existing strike. Our own generals tell us we can not fight our way out of this insurgency.”

Farrell spoke of the need for a “political compromise” with Iraq.

“An effort has to be made to bring issues to the table and negotiate, that will determine what form of a nation Iraq will take,” said Farrell. “With no political solution time tables are ridiculous.”

Farrell called upon the United Nations to achieve a verifiable cease fire, which she believes will bring safety to a reasonable level via a negotiated settlement.

Farrell also talked about the United Nations’ role in choosing a new president in Iraq. Farrell’s hope is that Iraq will choose their own leaders in a democratic election.

“While there has been significant steps towards progress, still exists,” Farrell said.

Christopher Shays challenger, Diane Farrell, promotes her campaign at SHU.

States See FARRELL on page 2...
GE grant awarded to Scholars Program

Anne Dunne
Staff Reporter

The General Electric (GE) Foundation recently awarded Sacred Heart University $157,000 for their Scholars Program to help funding for the 18 students enrolled.

"All of this came out of GE's interest in bridging the gap of minority students who were interested in entering into mathematic and science studies and, therefore, careers," said Virginia Stephens, Sacred Heart GE Foundation Scholars Program Director.

The GE Foundation works to strengthen educational quality for disadvantaged youth globally.

Eligibility requirements for this grant include being a full-time undergraduate, need for financial aid, 3.0 grade point average, minority student status. Recipients are also given the opportunity to be paired with a GE employee.

Recipients such as Ariane Fernandez, a senior, have received the grant. 

"I have been told students who are either financially disadvantaged or would not be able to secure as good an education without a grant have received the money," said John Nugent, senior, Manchester, N.H. "Other than that, in my opinion, what the money has actually been applied to has been kept tight-lipped."

The $157,000 grant is dispersed in two installments.

See BUSINESS on page 5.

Corrections & Clarifications

"Is the future of Greek Life going national?" Article on page 4 was written by Anne Dunne.

"New laptops, new issues" Photo on page 5 was taken by Kate Brindisi.

"Rocking rally to save lives in Central Park" Bottom photo on page 3 was taken by Alexandra Prim.

News

Football and fun for all

Alumni Weekend honors the past and celebrates the present.

Alumni Weekend is a big event on campus for the students, faculty and returning alumni. Posters are spread throughout the campus promoting Sacred Heart’s favorite fall weekend and emails and letters have been sent to alumni to remind them of the events.

Tailgating and football go hand-in-hand, whether a at a NEC or NFL game. But the tailgating rules have changed at Sacred Heart.

In past years, North Lot was open for both alumni and current students to tailgate as they please. Problems arose on campus when many tailgaters chose to party in North Lot instead of attending the football game.

New tailgating rules will be put into effect this weekend to promote the "dry campus" Sacred Heart prides itself to be.

"The reason these steps are being taken is to prevent underage drinking and ensure a safe event," said Jack Fernandez, Public Safety.

With the recent ban of kegs on Fairfield University campus, alcohol on campus grounds is a hot issue and has been the talk of the town.

"We adjusted our procedures this summer before we were made aware of Fairfield University's changes," said Fernandez. "Alcoholic beverages will be allowed in two locations on campus for persons over 21 years old and have registered with the appropriate officers.

"The faculty/staff lot will be reserved for Alumni tailgaters and the Curtis Hall lot for athletic tailgaters. We will not allow alcoholic beverages in any other area." Sacred Heart's size is one component that pertains to the Homecoming and alumni festivities. Bigger colleges celebrate their homecomings with a week of different school spirited activities, enormous parades, televised football games and acres of tailgaters.

Do Homecoming and alumni activities properly represent the Sacred Heart spirit and Pioneer pride?

"Sacred Heart isn't the biggest school," said Laura Johnson, junior, Redhook, N.Y. "We don't have the size, money, and fan base that bigger schools have so the turn out won't be the same as schools like Boston College. Our (Homecoming and alumni) activities are smaller and more personal, making SHU Homecoming unique every year." This weekend is not only about new safety regulations and drinking rules, but marks the unity of Sacred Heart throughout the years.

Alumni will return to show their spirit and to catch up with old friends and students will celebrate and show what Sacred Heart Homecoming is all about.

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hungry fans.

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of America being stuck in a "deadlock."

"Here we are in the fourth year of the war and we are stuck," said Farrell.

"I don't need to go to Iraq to know that things aren't working. You don't need to go to Iraq to know that things aren't working."

"Chris [Shays] still won't demand an exit strategy from this administration. He still has not demanded a plan, he still won't call on [Donald] Rumsfeld to resign." Farrell also discussed the fact that Shays visited Iraq 14 times and when he returned he started to use a different language, one she describes as a "vague language" used to confuse people about his position on the war.

"Chris Shays knows the fourth district very well," said Jeffery Barrett, senior, President of College Republicans, Wolcott. "He knows the problems that Connecticut faces, and Diane Farrell does too, but he has had experience with those problems and he knows what he needs to do to get that done.

"Students find voting difficult because they are usually out of their district and they are away from home. Students are either too lazy to fill out absentee ballots or aren't even familiar with the process."

Farrell disagreed with how the government administration has handled expenses for political expédience.

"The administration somehow found the political courage to cut back on the Deficit Reduction Act, so in order to save money they decided to increase the interest rate on student loans," said Farrell.

According to Farrell, Congress does not want to fund on-going needs. As a result, these needs get pushed down to the local level.

"Students have a right to be upset that student loan rates are going up and they should be if they are not then they don't know the issues," said Barrett. "Students definitely need to get involved in the political process and make voting a priority."

The 2006 congressional election is attracting national attention outside of Sacred Heart.

"This election is very competitive and it's a very high profile race which the nation is watching, and it has a lot of consequences," said Gary Rose, Chairman of the Government and Politics Department, Cheshire. "Whatever party wins it will be an indication of what may happen in other districts."

"The war affects everyone and voting affects the war. You can't divorce the war on Iraq from our domestic issue because it is central to everything that affects us. Jesse Jackson hit the nail on the head when he said 'it is not a single issue it is a central issue because it is effecting every other issue.'"

Farrell's campaign stop at Sacred Heart was her effort to encourage college students to take action and vote, because they determine the future of politics.

The war in Iraq is a "hot button issue," so this fall, will you vote for your local officials or leave it in the hands of others to determine the government's fate?
Pioneer Magazine wants you!

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If modeling is not your thing and decorating is your forte, then enter your pad in the Pioneer “Place To Be” contest.

Does your dorm room look like a picture from Pier One Imports or ESPN Zone? Is your room hooked up with the latest electronics? Or is your off campus house in the greatest location with the ultimate amenities?

If you think your place rocks, the Pioneer staff urges you to send in up to four unique pictures of your dorm room or house, along with a short description of why your place is the best.

There are no specific requirements for house or dorm room style. The Pioneer is looking for eclectic décor, design and locale.

Prizes worth over $1,000 will be rewarded to the students with the best dorm room and off campus house. Prizes include Swiss Army watches, gift certificates to local eateries, such as Bennigans Grille & Tavern and Taco Loco, Bridgeport Sound Tigers hockey tickets and memorabilia, along with other surprising gifts.

“I’m really excited about this next issue of the Pioneer,” said Jackie Hull, senior, Seymour. “I’m also looking forward to our Pioneer ‘Place To Be’ contest. It’s going to be a lot of fun and the prizes are awesome. Good luck!”

Now, you finally have the chance to brag about your space and have the incentive to keep your room or house clean and looking better than ever. Show off your place for amazing prizes.

How would your dorm do in the contest?

why not?

“I can never leave my room without making my bed and picking everything up off the floor,” said Katrina Torres, senior, East Hartford. “The girls I live with and I always keep our apartment looking cute and I’m so glad people will finally get recognition for keeping the place they live looking its best.”

If you are interested in showing off your great looks and amazing fashion sense and want to show Sacred Heart why your room or house is the best, send in your pictures with contact information as soon as possible to Gina Saccaro, Pioneer Magazine Style Editor, at saccarog@sacredheart.edu or Jaclyn Hull, Pioneer Magazine Editor-In-Chief at hullj@sacredheart.edu.

SHU turns up the heat with Hispanic Heritage Month

Lauren Confalone
Staff Reporter

Mid-September through Mid-October brings about a jam-packed schedule for students and faculty with the celebration of Hispanic Heritage month.

“Melting pot” is a term that has been used to describe America for decades. This is a country based on ideals, which are intended to be all-inclusive, values of freedom and liberty.

Sacred Heart University’s International and Multicultural Center (IMC) is the “melting pot” of clubs and organizations having to do with ethnicity such as the Italian Club, the International Club, UMOJA and La Hispanidad.

“La Hispanidad has been created for everyone to explore all facets of Hispanic culture through cuisine, music, dance, art, literature, travel, etc. It’s all about cultural awareness,” said Jennifer Hernandez, President of La Hispanidad.

“The United States of America is a microcosm of the world. For instance, I’m American and my cultural background stems from the gorgeous island of Puerto Rico,” said Hernandez. “But at any given moment, I can be standing next to another American with a cultural background from Italy, France, China, Nigeria, and the list goes on.

That’s what makes this country so beautiful!” she said.

La Hispanidad is affiliated with the International and Multicultural Center and urges the attendance of the various cultural events that happen on campus and in the community. Though La Hispanidad is hosting the Hispanic Heritage month events, it is supported by the other groups in the IMC.

On Oct. 3, a Caribbean Night event will be held in the Outpost Lounge at 10:10 p.m.

On Oct. 11, Noche Tropical will be hosted at the Outpost Lounge from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. It will feature Raggaeaton Hip Hop Artis “Titan,” seen on “Telemund,” and DJ Action, heard at Toad’s Place, Salty Dog Saloon and Hula Hanks.

The event will offer free food from Tacos Loco and a raffle for $500 in prizes.

The first 25 people to arrive at the locale enter the raffle for free! The event is dress to impress, so pull out those dressing shoes and classy digs.

The month will also feature a play in the Edgerton Theatre, “El Hechizo: The Spell” on Oct. 21 and a bilingual mass that will happen Oct. 29.

“I wouldn’t necessarily consider Sacred Heart to be the most diverse school I’ve been to,” said Jennifer Agatep, junior, Far-Rockaway, N.Y.

Agatep, who is of Asian-Pacific Islander decent, said she is used to a more diverse setting coming from Queens.

“But I do feel comfortable here [at SHU],” Agatep said.

To educate and promote diversity and awareness amongst students and the surrounding community is the purpose of the International and Multicultural Center, said Karima Ummah, Coordinator of International/ Multicultural Affairs.

“I think it’s a really good thing that the school is trying to spread diversity,” said Stephanie Sullivan, junior, Newton, N.H.

“From my experiences in high school, SHU is a rather diverse place.”

Sullivan, who is of Scottish, Welsh and Irish decent, said, “My entire high school only had one African American, and like, eight Hispanic students.”

Max Anne Flohbrügge, a freshman of Riverhead, N.Y. currently attending Housatonic Community College who plans to transfer to Sacred Heart University in the spring has a contrasting experience to Sullivan’s.

“It’s just funny that two schools, like 15 minutes apart, are so completely different when it comes to [diversity],” said Flohbrügge, who is German and Italian. “I believe that there are at least 55 different nationalities and languages represented at Housatonic.”

In addition to supporting this month’s events, IMC also deals with international affairs by providing visa services to students, hosting and promoting events with speakers of different ethnic backgrounds, and providing opportunities for various international study-abroad programs.

Hispanic Heritage Month is sure to be an exciting learning experience regardless of personal heritage. Stop by any of the upcoming events, which will be posted within the “Daily Events” e-mails as well as around campus.

The Multicultural Center is located on the bottom floor of Hawley Lounge to the right of the pool tables if you have any questions or are interested in getting involved with any of these groups on campus.

For specific information on La Hispanidad, contact Jennifer Hernandez at hernandez691@sacredheart.edu.
Sacred Heart, the new eye of the tiger

Joseph Pezza
Staff Reporter

On Sept. 7, Sacred Heart University was proud to be named the sole provider of health services for the Bridgport Sound Tigers hockey team for the 2006-2007 season.

Injury management and tending to players during the pre-season and regular season games will be undertaken by active members of the university's Sports Medicine and Rehab program with the primary goal of ensuring proper health maintenance for all players.

"We will be present for all home games, practices in Shelton and other promotional activities conducted by the team," said Dr. Michael Emery, associate professor and chairman of Sacred Heart's Department of Physical Therapy and Human Movement Science program.

Sacred Heart's Sports Medicine and Rehab program strives to provide equal treatment to all patients regardless of age or physical condition. There is no differentiation between the eleven-year old league pitcher and the elderly citizen.

"This partnership allows Sacred Heart to provide the Sound Tigers with one of the premier athletic centers in the state," said Rich Stiegitz, managing director and CEO of Norwalk's Integrated Rehabilitation Services.

Bridgport's Sound Tigers, the top affiliate for the New York Islanders' season will begin Oct. 8.

Vic Vaughan, adjunct professor of physical therapy, said to why Sacred Heart was chosen as the exclusive provider of health services for the Sound Tigers, "I believe there was one other provider that the Sound Tigers were considering but I believe the university was chosen because of its very substantial level of training and expertise in treating people, with sports related injuries.

I also think that our facility was superior in terms of equipment as we

Sacred Heart will be providing the Sound Tigers with physical therapy services and the health fitness center downstairs from us." These rehabilitative additions are productive means to ensuring that there will be a firm and consistent relationship among the Sound Tigers and Sacred Heart.

According to Vaughan, there are approximately 81 students in the entire doctorate program of the physical therapy department.

Rehabilitation will most likely go to the players who are injured and unable to perform typically for over a week. Minor cuts and bruises are easily treatable so more scrutinized service will be given to those who have sustained a more serious degree of physical injury.

Since hockey is considered one of the most high-risk sports, players are more prone to get hurt and with a faculty-based practice and top experts observing the level of rehab will be that much more effective, said Dr. Michael Emery, director of Sacred Heart's physical therapy department.

As of right now, it's difficult to see the rate of injury or how beneficial Sacred Heart's involvement with the Sound Tigers will be. If all goes well however, considering the the staff's expertise in Sports Medicine and rehabilitation techniques, Sacred Heart promises a long-standing relationship with the hockey team, said Vaughan.

"It's wonderful that Sacred Heart is getting involved with the outer community. I'm a physical therapy major and it's important that we are involved with the team and treating their players, said Michael Pezza, sophomore, Brooklyn, N.Y. "It opens the eyes of the students and is a great foot-in-the-door so that they may build up experience and knowledge in the area of physical therapy."

Pezza also noted the importance of having the rehab services in two separate locations: one in Fairfield, the other in Shelton.

"It gives the staff opportunity to work with other members of the community and make the whole experience even more productive," said Pezza. "The opportunity to make people learn from each other is there and so students and faculty can only benefit from this experience."

In conclusion, Sacred Heart's physical therapy department looks forward to future work with the Sound Tigers and an promising 2006-2007 season. "People appear confident and excited about what the future holds with this newly found relationship and it will be a fantastic opportunity for students to get to work with clinicians," said Emery.

Sacred Heart University Sports Medicine and Rehab Centers are open to the public the ten hours per day Monday through Friday, and on Saturday by appointment only.

Catholic lawyer addresses the Death Penalty at SHU

Carolyn Tavares
Staff Reporter

The death penalty. Three words that breath controversy.

On Monday afternoon, Kevin Doyle, J.D., Director of the Capital Defender Office in New York City, discussed the death penalty from a Catholic perspective at Sacred Heart.

Doyle, a graduate from the University of Virginia Law School, stated that while some might be anxious to talk about this subject matter, he feels differently.

We may all be Catholic, but that doesn't mean we all think the same," said Doyle. "As a Catholic, I oppose the death penalty. When given the opportunity between life and death, I would choose life."

Maria Valdivieso, senior, Criminal Justice major, Elizabeth, New Jersey, finds Doyle's views interesting but is aware that talking about religion and the death penalty deals with a lot of different issues.

"I know our religion is kind of against it," said Valdivieso. "But also, in the past our religion has killed people."

During his speech, Doyle outlined the reasons he opposes the death penalty to backup his claims.

"I oppose the death penalty for three reasons," said Doyle. "The first reason is even the well-intended can make mistakes and the second is that racism is morally sinful. The third reason is obvious: human life is sacred."

Attendants at the lecture, like Valdivieso, found Doyle's argument compelling.

"I think that [Mr. Doyle] did a great job today," said Valdivieso. "Capital punishment is hard to talk about, especially in a school like Sacred Heart."

During the lecture, Doyle covered the differences between both the Catholic perspective and how other religions view the death penalty.

"Protestants tend to be more black and white," said Doyle. "Protestants are inclined to think that someone is either all good or all bad. Catholics, tend to see more gray areas."

But does the punishment fit the crime?

"I think it depends on the crime [if they should be given the death penalty]," said Valdivieso. "If someone killed one person, maybe not. But a serial killer for example, maybe then that person should be put to death."

Doyle continued his lecture by discussing racism in the courtroom.

"The line between good and evil does not run through nations," said Doyle. "It runs through the human heart."

With every stage of the capital prosecution, there is room for error. Everything tends to get sensationalized, due to media attention.

Doyle pointed out errors with the jurors in the courtrooms when the death penalty is a possibility. He explains that when people are screened for jury duty in criminal cases, only the people who would acknowledge the death penalty as a possible solution are allowed to become jurors for a case.

Another error Doyle addresses is prejudice and racism.

"When candidates who go in for his or her assessment, no one is going to volunteer that they are racially prejudice," said Doyle. "Their personal feelings may only show through when they are deliberating."

While one may have feelings against a
College of Business excels

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

ways. $72,000 of it is split between the 18 students in the program and is used as an earmarked scholarship to apply towards tuition. Each student receives $4,000. The other $85,000 is given towards retention and enrichment programs.

"As a Mathematics major here at the University, the grant for the scholars is effective because people who are going into this program need extensive knowledge for the field," said Colleen Parsons, junior, Richmond, Mass. "This grant helps facilitate their education."

Sacred Heart's College of Business is committed to educating students in the leadership tradition and legacy of Jack Welch, the legendary CEO of General Electric. Although only 18 students were awarded this grant, the other students in the College of Business are now able to place the distinguished name "John F. Welch College of Business" on their resume.

"The business program has afforded me a strong education which has helped me secure great relative business experience," said Nugent. "Although the College of Business has changed its name, I do not feel the education or any other programs have changed at all."

In the past, the award had been given to 24 recipients on campus but this year the number was lowered to 18 to allow a greater sum of money to be distributed to those who need it the most.

"We opted for fewer students and more money for each student," said Stephens.

Along with receiving a good chunk of money for their tuition, recipients of this award have a good chance of receiving a job or internship at General Electric, but this opportunity is one that requires hard work and dedication.

"It's not a natural progression that if you're in this program you're going to get a job or an internship at GE," said Stephens. "This is not a pipeline. You're competing with everybody else for potential opportunities."

These students also attend other programs to help them become well-rounded individuals. Such programs include workshops on leadership, careers and public speaking. They also attend various art exhibits and events.

"These [programs] will help students succeed even more in the business world," said Stephens. "Not all business is conducted in an office or on a golf course."

Since 1994 the College of Business has accepted 144 students, supporting their academic and career goals. Continuing the career success stories of graduates, undergraduates and potential students, the GE Foundation has improved and helped the education of academically talented minority students.

Capital punishment:
Does it fit the crime?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Kevin Doyle, J.D., Director of the Capital Defender Office in New York City, speaks about the death penalty.

certain race, another may take side with someone because of their race.

"Race has to do with empathizing and identifying," said Doyle.

Doyle finds that another error with jurors in death penalty cases is that they do not volunteer. Jurors are asked to take the time to listen to cases.

The media may be to blame for some of the prejudices one may feel while entering a courtroom thanks to popular television shows, such as "Law and Order" and the "C.S.I." series. Watchers of these shows are constantly shown "real" photographs from "real" crime scenes.

"These photographs are forensic pornography," said Doyle. "But instead of appealing to our sense of lust, these gory pictures from crimes appeal to our sense of anger."

For many, figuring out the culprit in crimes could be as easy as taking a DNA test. Unfortunately, according to Doyle, most of the capital cases cannot be verified by DNA.

"Sometimes, there is no DNA to insure that you've got the right guy," said Doyle.

"I believe in the death penalty," said Valdivieso. "If someone had killed a member of my family, I would want them dead. Although, it surprised me when Mr. Doyle talked about how many people had been pardoned from death row, due to suppressed evidence or DNA findings."

"I believe that you are against something, you should be against it 100 percent and even though I still believe in the death penalty, Mr. Doyle had made some very convincing arguments against it."

Doyle's argument ruffled some feathers and changed some opinions but concluded with a compelling question, "How can one 'puff up' and act like God?"
Perspectives

SHU is a perfect choice for students

Rachel Maresca
Staff Reporter

In every college student’s life there’s a time when they had to sit down and make the very important decision of where to go to college.

When students were faced with making this life altering decision, there were many aspects they needed to consider. Things such as if the school has the major they wanted to pursue, or if they are interested and active in sports, does the school have these certain teams? Another crucial question may be where the school is located and is what around the campus.

These questions are something that high school seniors are beginning to face at this exact moment. SHU students take a trip down memory lane and share why they chose Sacred Heart University as the place to further their education.

“I chose Sacred Heart because I liked that it was not too far away from home, but it is still far enough to feel like I am really going away to college,” said Kimberly Sullivan, freshman, Pearl River, N.Y.

Location can be everything for some when making the decision of where to go to school. Picking a college that is somewhat close to home can be a comforting thing, especially for a freshman that are new to the school and college life.

“I came to Sacred Heart because of the beautiful campus,” said Katherine Knips, junior, Commack, N.Y.
The site of the campus can be something that is very important to students. They want to be at a school where the grounds and the buildings are well taken care.

“I wanted to come to SHU because there is a large amount of school activities to be a part of on campus,” said Dave Mandler, junior, New Canaan.

Being able to get involved on campus is a great opportunity to get to know people and learn about the school. SHU opens up these opportunities for students everyday.

On a more humorous note, Mandler said, “I also wanted to come to this school because of all the pretty girls that go here.”

“I chose to come to Sacred Heart because I am a part of the football team here, and I also really liked the location,” said Chase Macula, senior, River Edge, N.J.

Athletics is something that Sacred Heart takes a lot of pride in and that is very important to young athletes that want to play sports at a collegiate level.

“I also wanted to come here because this school is a dry campus,” said Macula.

Living on a dry campus could be very significant to an athlete who needs to con-centrate on their schoolwork.

“I wanted to come to SHU because it felt like home to me,” said Amber Noveillo, junior, Seaford, N.Y.

Going away to college is a big adjustment and being able to find a place where students feel they could call their second home is vital in a student’s choice of where to go to college.

“Am I currently a student here at Sacred Heart because of Hurricane Katrina,” said Xavier Campbell, senior, Venice, Calif.

Campbell went to the University of Louisiana and after the tragedy of hurricane Katrina he came to Sacred Heart. His story is definitely a unique one.

Campbell is one of many students that came here after the horrific Hurricane Katrina tragedy. The SHU community opened their arms to these students and gave them a chance to continue their education when their college had been severely damaged and destroyed.

Among these students interviewed an array of different reasons proved why students chose to come to SHU. As all college students have, these students had other schools to choose from when making the extremely imperative decision of where to go to college, but in the end they chose SHU.

These students have lots of pride in their school. Some of them being athletes, some being transfers, some being fresh-man, and others just enjoying their life here at SHU. It is sufficient to say that all of these students made the right choice.

What are SHU students doing for Homecoming?

“Going to the football game, hanging out with my girlfriend and tailgating.”

Brett Jones
Staten Island, N.Y.- Junior

“I will be tailgating for the football game all day.”

Jessica Villani
St. James, N.Y.- Sophomore

“I am going to the football game and hanging out with my friends.”

Francesca Grasso
Northford- Junior

“I am going to the football game and going out to the club.”

Courtney Kohloff
East Haven- Junior
Sizing Up the Sexes: Do girls have to be thin and boys have to be big?

He Said...

How SHU students cope with the stress of challenging courses

Zach Giglio
Staff Reporter

College-age students have enough to worry about without having to deal with the stress of a difficult class. Coupled with extra-curricular activities or simply the stress of everyday life, difficult classes are the main cause of anxiety in college students.

It is a difficult task to juggle the workload of a demanding class with the pressure of a reasonable social life at any academic level let alone the collegiate level.

For some students, the answer to dealing with such a demanding class lies in either the Mahogany Room or the library where it is trusted that students can get more of their work done instead of being caught by the distractions of their dorm rooms or houses.

"The worst thing about taking tough courses isn't going to the classes, it's knowing I have a lot of work to do in more than one of them," said Joe Romano, junior, Brooklyn, N.Y.

"If there was only one hard class semester than that would not be as much of a problem," said Romano.

When asked about the amount of challenging classes he took Romano said, "I try to limit them to as little per semester as possible."

Carrying the stress for one or more classes is a hard task to deal with. Students look to different outlets in order to relieve stress.

Jason Hey, junior, Palmouth, Mass.

"I go to the gym to play a friendly game of basketball,"

When asked about how Hey deals with the stress of his classes he said, "even when I am stressing out about enormous amounts of work I have to do, it always helps to take my mind off it to ease my nerves, and then get a fresh start at working again.

Every student has to make a decision whether or not to let the anxiety of classes overwhelm them or step up to the plate and get the work done. There is no particular remedy to manage this type of stress except for each student to find what works best.

"The reading is excessive," said Kate McAllister, junior, Ridge, N.Y.

"Asking me to memorize a character for a class each class is a bit excessive," said McAllister.

One can correlate their agenda with that of McAllister's. In order to try and relieve some of the stress in her workload situation, McAllister said, "Anything that takes my mind of my work helps, usually going to the gym or even just hanging out with some friends." However, there is no particular way to master or eliminate the stress caused by every day collegiate activities. One particular student, Pete Izzo, junior, Cutchogue, N.Y., said, "The more fact that I am stressed out about schoolwork aggravates me and stresses me out even more," said Izzo.

While my major, Media Studies does not have as many exams or labs that

staying healthy and fit it's one of taking it to the extreme. Many people have driven themselves past healthy to create a stereotyped body image.

Go in the gym is a great hobby as it can serve many purposes. First, it can obviously be a health benefit, helping to prevent heart disease and more. Second, it will be something to focus on outside of work and school. Lastly, you will always feel better about yourself and have more energy and sleep better at night once you have established a regular healthy work out regiment.

There are both guys and girls who will go on crash diets and work out excessively to get the desired results. Often, this becomes an obsession and it goes far beyond being healthy. It is very important to monitor your time at the gym and the calories you take in to ensure that you do not take your exercise to an unhealthy level. There is nothing more attractive to anyone but a lean, muscular body, which has the proper nutrition and upkeep.

The fact that many men feel the need to be big and muscle bound along with women, who want to be increasing- ly thin, can be a turn off to the opposite sex. I am a fan of being fit and healthy and the majority of guys do not want an ultra thin girl. Go to the gym, work out, be healthy but there is no need for anyone to take it to the extreme of what it puts your health in danger.

Dana Disaster
"She Said" Columnist

Men and women both, come in all shapes and sizes. I, for one, consider myself to be a pear. While both sexes are very aware of their appearances and body sculpt, some tend to believe it is only normal for women to be thinner than men. I tend to believe that if you're lucky, you have a boyish figure, and all the clothes at urban outfitters fit you flawlessly.

From what the media and society has taught us, and embedded in our brains, it would be absurd for the guy to be skinnier than the girl. But let's not forget, we're living in the modern world of TV's built into treadmills, and the existence of vegans, and because of this, dudes aren't always bigger than girls.

Lately, it is perfectly normal for guys to be more concerned about their physique and diet and exercise than for girls.

They count calories just like most women. You may even catch them eating grapefruit for lunch.

Also, let's take into account that there are some girls that just don't care. Yeah, that plate of disco fries is about 30,000 calories, but they taste delicious. It perfectly justified, and it's normal to want to eat.

Do women usually date men who are bigger than them? Absolutely. Women think it's beneficial to have a large dude by their side. Some women like to have season tickets to the gun show. They feel more protected if the guy they're dating is muscular and strong, rather than a, girly- man. And it comforts them to know that their guy can out -drink most of their friends.

It would make sense to say that women are supposed to be more aware of their weight and appearance than men. They're the ones that are always reading those magazines telling them how to lose ten pounds in thirty minutes and how to prevent cellulite. It's sad to say, but sometimes genetics bites us in the ass, literally. Child bearing hips, athletic thighs and thirsty Thursdays can all lead to women blowing up like Violet in Willy Wonka.

But could it be possible that guys don't want to be as thin as the girl that's in front of her plate and just pushes around the food. There's no point to going out on a dinner date if the girl isn't going to eat.

I find that people should just date whatever they are comfortable with. Especially who they are comfortable eating in front of. Whatever size they are.

It Tips: Don't be a Cyber-patsy

Would it surprise you to know that starting in 2004 revenue generated from cyber-crime surpassed illegal drug sales? Law enforcement officials estimate cyber-crime is the fastest growing segment of crime worldwide.

Over the next few months we want to raise the level of cyber-security awareness across the campus. As a starting point we will list things you should do to make your computing more secure.

1. Use complex passwords of at least 10 characters with a combination of letters (with caps), numbers and special characters and DO NOT share your password with anyone else.

2. Ensure your laptop has the latest updated operation system and software. If you have a SHU laptop and are connected to the SHU network, we do this for you automatically.

3. Never open an email attachment from someone you don't know. Additionally, do not click on a link in a message from anyone you do not know or trust. Those URLs should just be manually typed into the browser address line.

4. Create a backup of all your important data. By default the files you create are stored in My Documents.

5. Do not store sensitive personal information on your laptop. The reason crooks want to compromise your laptop is to steal your data and use it to their advantage.

6. Understand what a computer hoax is and phishing schemes. Legal experts indicate at least 3% of those who receive such emails or website scams actually reply to them.

If you have any questions about this article, please contact the IT Call Center at 365-7575.
Laura Scaglione  
Staff Reporter

"American Idol" was not the end of the road for some finalists like Constantine Maroulis, Josh Strickland, and Diana DeGarmo.

Recently these "American Idol" contestants have been making their mark outside of television and making a name for themselves on Broadway in shows such as "Hairspray," "The Wedding Singer" and "Tarzan."

Last weekend a group of Sacred Heart students went to New York to see "The Wedding Singer" first hand, and to see how Constantine was doing with his new job.

"I loved the music and found the show to be really funny. I thought Constantine did a good job, he made me laugh," said Lindsay Wallace, senior, Mansfield, Mass.

Broadway is fertile ground for American Idol alumni Diana DeGarmo, who signed onto "Hairspray" from September to February, and Constantine, who signed on for an eight week run in "The Wedding Singer."

DeGarmo appeared on American Idol's third season of the show and Maroulis appeared on the fifth season. Neither of the two won the vocal competition but that hasn't stopped these song hounds from shining.

DeGarmo was the youngest finalist in 2004 on "American Idol." Her age didn't stop the world from loving her though. Her voice not only carried her way to the finals but also helped her aspire the role as "Hairspray's" Penny Pingleton, who will be portrayed by Amanda Bines in the upcoming movie version of the musical. Josh Strickland has found his highest claim to fame with the star role in the show "Tarzan."

Although Strickland never made it as far as the other finalists, he has made the biggest splash on Broadway by swinging into the title role.

The musical "The Wedding Singer" is similar to the movie, which starred Adam Sandler. Constantine plays the best friend of character Robbie Hart, named Sammy. However, this is not the first time that Constantine appeared in theatre productions, he starred as Roger in the touring production of "Rent."

Can these American Idol finalists deal with the transition from being on reality television to Broadway theatre? "[The Wedding Singer] was a cute show. I wouldn't just randomly buy tickets and go see it. I bought the tickets because of the student discount here at SHU. As for Constantine and his performance, I was impressed," said Aisha Lubin, senior, Brockton, Mass.

Starring in a Broadway musical is very different from the reality-television show "American Idol." These "Idol" finalists will now have to deal with the rigorous schedules of eight performances per week at the same character. That is something they haven't really dealt with in the past.

On "American Idol" their fate was left to the voting American people week after week. On Broadway, their fate is based upon their talent and how well they mesh with the other actors, not to mention box-office receipts. They need to perform well so they draw in a crowd. No one is there to vote for them week by week and the critics get to say whatever they feel.

Can the American Idol alums work the crowd?

"I was really surprised that Constantine was such a good actor, I didn't expect it from him even though I knew he had a good voice," said Erin Silke, senior, Manalapan New Jersey. "More SHU students should take advantage of the cheap student rates that we get by going through the school." Singsing to mass audiences was where these young singers started making names for themselves. Now, DeGarmo, Maroulis and Strickland are on stage in New York theatres playing roles of all different characters and still doing what they love most: singing.

Matt Brucato  
Staff Reporter

The CW network debuted this month with a fall program consisting of surviving shows from the merger of the WB and UPN networks.

The CW network marks the first new network to arrive in over 10 years since the original debut of both the WB and UPN. Each network received mild success over the years targeting the young adult demographic but has never been able to compete with the larger networks like CBS, NBC, ABC and FOX.

With profits decreasing, the CBS Corporation, owners of UPN and Time-Warner Inc., owners of WB, announced that the WB and UPN networks would be terminated and repackaged as one network, the CW Network.

"I don't like the new name, I miss the WB and the frog," said Chris Yantz, junior, Stony Brook, N.Y. With the "C" representing CBS and the "W" for Warner Bros. the CW plans to target much of the same age demographic as the former networks. Concentrating on the 18-34 year old group with shows geared toward young adults.

The CW website has a breakdown of their programming schedule that consists of 30 hours of programming over seven days. The prime time hours of about 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday make up the bulk of the CW schedule.

"I only watch America's Next Top Model, it was the only good show on UPN," said Dawn Sapanaro, senior, Ramsey N.J.

The CW has opted to take the most successful programs from each former network to make up most of the fall schedule.


"I'll only be watching 'Smallville','" said Brendan Donohue, junior, Melville, N.Y. "It is the best show out of both networks."

There were 23 shows cut because of the merger and the CW will only be premiering two new programs this fall. "Runaway," which premiered last Monday, stars Donnie Wahlberg, and is about a family on the run from the law.

"The Game," premiering Oct. 5, stars Tia Mowry as the girlfriend of a pro-football player who "learns how to deal with egos, groupies and image consultants," as the CW website describes.

In a surprise move to fans of "7th Heaven," the show will be returning after being cancelled last season. While other high rated shows such as "Everwood" and the pilot episode of "Aquaman" were cancelled and never picked up.

The low rated "One Tree Hill" was picked up for another season on the CW.

"Chad Michael Murray is a god and I love "One Tree Hill," said Ashley Lopes, freshman, Falmouth, Mass.

With the departure of UPN a void needs to be filled where the former network was stationed. News Corp. parent company to FOX, will be filling that void with a new network called MyNetworkTV. Stations that did not renew with the CW look to MyNetworkTV for alternative programming.

The CW network debuted last Wednesday with a two-hour season premiere of "America's Next Top Model." The only other debut for the CW last week was "Friday Night Smackdown."

The CW aired the season premier of "7th Heaven" and the debut of "Runaway" on Monday and two of its flagship programs will premiere tonight, "Smallville" and "Supernatural."

The critically acclaimed former UPN shows, "Veronica Mars" and "Everybody Loves Chris," will not be premiering until early Oct. For more information concerning the premieres and debuts of CW programs and schedule visit www.cwtv.com.
Gripping dramas, laugh out loud comedies and suspenseful adventures give this year's new television shows a place in the fall line up, complimenting the shows that already have a loyal following.

"I am excited to see how they wrap up the last three years of drama on 'The OC,' but I was really excited for 'Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip' to start," said Rachelle Murphy, junior, Berlin, V.T.

"Studio 60" is a new show finding humor in the drama of producing a late night sketch comedy.

"It's the return of Matthew Perry, who I've loved since Friends.

Also, I love that it is a TV show about TV shows, like a show within a show.

I am interested in working in television and it's always interesting to see how accurately a show is, in terms of how the productions work," said Murphy.

It is similar to Tina Fey's new sitcom, '30 Rock,' in storyline, but has a more dramatic take on the subject.

There are many new dramas starting this season that will also keep audiences in suspense.

"Jericho" is about a small town that realizes that they might be the only survivors in a nationwide nuclear attack. The townspeople must band together to figure out how to survive without killing each other.

This drama fits home with a fear that makes one think that this could possibly happen to us.

If there wasn't enough legal TV shows taking up the airwaves, there have been two new ones added to the lineup.

James Woods plays an arrogant lawyer on the new drama "Shark," that follows his career as a high priced trial lawyer.

The show has already been nicknamed the "House" of legal shows.

"Justice," another legal show gives viewers a look into how a case is tried in the media, as well as what goes into creating a successful defense.

To keep audiences glued to the television week after week they throw in curve balls and cliffhangers.

One show that does all that and more is "Lost," which keeps the audience begging for more.

"Well it's a scenario you know you'll never be in, so that in itself makes the story exciting. But with 'Lost' the writers have made the storyline to keep you guessing, you never really know how an event is going to turn out until you see it with your own two eyes," said Eric Erk, junior, Cortlandt Minor, N.Y.

"Lost" has managed to keep audiences glued to the TV for two seasons and is continuing on to its third season this fall.

Back for a second season, "Prison Break" is continuing the story of two brothers who broke free from prison to save an innocent man from death.

"The storyline is extremely unique. The show always keeps you on your feet. Michael Scofield [the main character] is one of the smartest peole I have ever seen," said Shane Smith, senior, Dania.

This past Thursday, "Grey's Anatomy" had its premiere for the third season. The show concentrates on the personal and professional lives of five interns at a hospital, as well as the lives of the doctors they work with.

Intelligent story lines, comic one-liners, and gripping dramas make up the mixture of fall shows premiering in the upcoming months.

Whether it is an old favorite or an exciting new show, the new fall line up has something in there for everyone.

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**Celebrity on Campus**

Jacyl Hull
A & E editor

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Last Tuesday, Dr. Sid Gottlieb, Dr. David Curtis and their students were pleasantly surprised when "Gladiator" and "Walk the Line" star Joaquin Phoenix walked into their Film and Literature class.

Phoenix told Gottlieb his purpose of sitting in was to study the actions and mannerisms of a college professor to inspire his performance in his upcoming film "Reservation Road.

Originally Phoenix's production company contacted SHU's publicity office about possibly doing some shooting for the film on campus followed by the idea that Phoenix be allowed to sit in and observe one day.

Sid's name got thrown around and he jumped on the opportunity of having a celebrity observer his teaching methods.

"Somehow my name got mentioned, and I of course was very excited about the prospect of him coming to a class," said Gottlieb, Professor of Media Studies and Digital Culture.

"I had a chance to talk with Joaquin for about 15 minutes before the class and then a few minutes afterwards. He was very friendly, down-to-earth, and easy to talk with. I asked him if he was looking for any students in the class and he said that we should just do what we normally do and he would sit in the back and watch."

Which is exactly what Phoenix did, he sat through a 90-minute discussion and didn't say a word. Most students didn't even know he was in the class because of his low-key persona and appearance.

"When I first saw Joaquin outside talking to Sid before class, he was wearing aviator glasses and sporting a beard, it seemed as if he was trying to disguise himself," said Brendan March, sophomore, Hicksville, N.Y.

Some students in the class questioned the unfamiliar face in the back of the room, but did not realize it was the same face of the character Johnny Cash until both Gottlieb and Curtis announced it over the class break.

"I didn't even recognize Joaquin, he was all covered up with his beard and long hair," said Jennifer Blake, senior, Rocky Point, N.J.

Although Joaquin told Sid that he grew his beard for the role he is playing, some students believed he was intentionally trying to hide his identity.

"Beforehand, they [Phoenix's production company] asked us to keep it very quiet, as Joaquin wished to remain unnoticed," said Funda Aly, director of communications.

The only information he released about his upcoming movie was that he will be playing a role of a college professor.

"He said that he dropped out of school and never went to college, so he thought it would be a good idea to visit a classroom to see what goes on," said Gottlieb.

After attending the Film and Lit course, Joaquin made his way over to see what a large lecture course was like at Yale University.

Gottlieb was flattered that Phoenix attended Curtis and his classroom, and wonders which course he got more inspiration out of, a smaller class at SHU or a large lecture course at Yale?

Either way, we'll have to look for his upcoming movie to see if any of his mannerisms depict our familiar professor's characteristics.
H.U.G.S. all around

Alyssa Ferdinand
Staff Reporter

An onslaught of students and faculty pass through the halls every day, among them, one -hunched faces of an oppressed community. Being different in a fairly monotonous setting makes it easy to noticeably stand out. A private Catholic institution such as Sacred Heart University has proven no different to the average member of the GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender) community.

"The feedback I get from students is that Sacred Heart can be a difficult place to navigate socially as a gay man or woman," said Dr. Michael Ventimiglia, current advisor of the Sacred Heart Gay/ Straight Alliance.

"My sense is that most [of the] faculty at SHU is sensitive to the challenges that gay students face, and [the faculty] supports H.U.G.S. as an instrument for increased understanding within the community," said Ventimiglia.

H.U.G.S., otherwise known as the organization "Helping Unite Gays and Straights" is the campus GSA.

The goal of the H.U.G.S. organization is to bring the GLBT acceptance that reaches beyond tolerance within the SHU community.

"I think that I would like the [SHU] community to be more accepting of people that don't exactly go with the status quo," said Meghan Strecker, senior, Danbury, and president of the H.U.G.S. organization.

"There should be more people coming out because there are people on campus who are gay but are afraid to come out because they are on a team or they're part of an organization," said Chris Williams, senior, New Rochelle, N.Y.

"In the H.U.G.S. meeting we have a blend of both homosexuals and heterosexual and both can be themselves without fear of judgment or harassment," said Williams.

"Our school is so right-winged Catholic-conservative, sometimes it is difficult to speak to understand what we are trying to do," said Strecker.

"Last year when we had our trans-gendered speaker come to SHU we had to meet with the people in the higher faculty positions for many weeks before they actually were able to allow her to come and give the talk.

"We have some great connections with campus ministry which makes us more accessible to students who normally wouldn't feel comfortable approaching such a group as H.U.G.S.," said Strecker.

"I feel that H.U.G.S. allows for an atmosphere in which students can open up and be themselves, and in turn it allows them to become more comfortable with who they are in our school's community as well as work towards becoming more comfortable with who they are in the gay community," said Justin Timberlake before a hometown crowd in Memphis on "a part of a live broadcast for "Good Morning America" on Friday, Sept. 15, 2006.

According to Strecker and other members of the organization Sacred Heart still has a long way to go in terms of being an absolutely "Gay Friendly" campus.

"There has never actually been a Safe Zone club on our campus, but Safe Zone originally was a program designed to get a group of students and members of a school's community together who were trained in how to break down stereotypes and teach faculty and staff how to be non-judgmental," said Strecker.

Since the club's birth students and faculty alike, both gay and straight, have benefited from its existence through on-campus events and speaker presentations. They also offer special off campus trips, such as the True Colors Conference.

H.U.G.S. is truly a student-driven organization designed to help better the SHU experience.

"I believe that we are on an upward and that current members are committed to keeping the club afloat and productive," said Ventimiglia.

"People tend to be judgmental and non-accepting of things outside the norm, this club helps our cause to change," said Williams.

It is because of student-run organizations like H.U.G.S. that Sacred Heart has undergone evolution and has turned the campus into a friendlier place for all people.

"Being a member of this club has been one of the most enjoyable parts of my life at SHU. This club meets once a week but these people are all of my most close and personal friends," said Strecker.

"We are like a family," said Strecker.

The earlier the better?

Cintreece Brown
Staff Reporter

There has been a recent upset in the college community over one of the most controversial issues known to colleges. Harvard University has announced that they will be eliminating their Early Admissions process.

Harvard stated they are doing this in order to give all of their applicants an equal opportunity for admissions. This decision will now give a better opportunity of acceptance to minority students as well as those from lower income homes.

SHU does offer early admission opportunity to students. This is the same procedure that Harvard is now eliminating.

Some are now raising the question; should Sacred Heart follow Harvard's lead also and terminate early admissions? If this were to take place, would it be a welcomed change for potential Sacred Heart students applying for the following semester?

On Sept. 12, the Harvard University Gazette published an article on the prestigious university riding them of the early admissions program.

The article stated that for the fall of 2007 Harvard will be having a single application deadline of Jan. 1, 2008.

Therefore, this will be affecting the freshman students that will be entering the university that year.

"The college admissions process has become too pressured, too complex, and too vulnerable to public cynicism," said Derek Bok, Interim President, Harvard.

"We hope that doing away with early admission will improve the process and make it simpler and fairer.

"The early admission programs tend to advantage the advantaged. Students from more sophisticated backgrounds and affluent high schools often apply early to increase their chances of admission, while minority students and students from rural areas, other countries, and high schools with fewer resources miss out. Students needing financial aid are disadvantaged by binding early decision programs that prevent them from comparing aid packages. Other student's who apply early and gain admission to the college of their choice have less reason to work hard at their studies during the final year of high school," said Bok.

This maybe the case with Sacred Heart applicants. Do students from a more fortunate background have the admissions advantage only at Harvard, or does this take place at Sacred Heart as well as at other Universities?

The early admissions process may be playing a part in the lack of diversity in the student body. The class of 2008 is evidence of this.

The Sacred Heart Admissions office has calculated the percentage of minorities in the class. It is very low, a mere 11 percent.

The highest percentage was in the Hispanic community at only five percent.

Following close behind was African-Americans with only three percent.

Minority students from Asian American, American Indian, or Pacific Islander heritage, combined only totaled three percent.

Ultimately this comes out only to about one hundred students of color in the entire class of 2008.

"To find out if early decision would benefit you, ask the admission staff two important questions: first, what proportion of the class is admitted early? second, what percentage of the early applicants are admitted versus [the percentage] of regular applicants," says Robert Massa, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Life, Dickinson College, Penn.

"The higher the first numbers are versus the second, the better your chances are of being admitted if you apply early decision," said Massa.

In the end, the decision of whether or not to apply early decision or early action is yours alone. Do your research, think about your options, use your resources and then decide for yourself.
RateMyProfessor causing controversy

Theresa Vosilla
Features Editor

This professor is boring, tough, impossible!
Most college students will admit to saying that they’ve had a professor like this before and wish they knew this before enrolling in the course.
For some students the solution to this problem might be a website called Ratemypreprofessor.com.
"RateMyProfessor.com (RMP) is America’s largest collection of college professor ratings (5,300,000) with user base of over 8,000,000 college students. RMP now expands to colleges and universities across the U.S., Canada, United Kingdom, Australia and Ireland," states the site’s Press Release.
"Every semester, millions of students use RateMyProfessors.com to plan their class schedules, which in turn improves the quality of their educations," said John Swapceinski, founder, RMP.
The site allows students to leave comments about their professors and also rate their "hotness" by awarding them chili peppers.
"But the site’s real purpose is to drive traffic to the company’s Swooks website, which sells textbooks" states Money.cnn.com.
The site is currently receiving a lot of attention; most of it is protest from universities and professors, many of them who are featured on the site.
Free speech, opinion and telling the truth is permitted, but where is the line drawn when false information and untrue remarks begin to damage careers.
When is this considered defamation, and therefore could potentially become ground for a lawsuit?
Many are saying that the ratings are unfair and could have a negative impact because there are no guarantees that the information provided is correct or accurate.
"In many cases professors with terrible ratings teach required courses, so many of the students in the classes don’t want to be there and this attitude could impact their view of the course and professor before they even get there," said Sara Lizzo, senior, Rockland County, N.Y.
"The owner of Ratemypreprofessor.com says the site does track IP addresses to minimize a user’s ability to review the same person multiple times. Also, each school’s page has a student administrator who reviews all submissions. Professors or anyone else who disputes a review can red flag it. The administrator will take a second look to see if it should be edited or deleted," stated ABC News, ABC Local.
The issue is stirring up a lot more media coverage than just ABC.
On the website there is a section titled “Read what other people are saying” which provides links to other media sources covering the site.
These links include a large array of media including, the Boston Globe, Progressive U and the Baltimore Business Journal just to name a few.
On the site, Sacred Heart University has a total of 453 ratings for professors.
They are ranked as good, poor and bad with quality ranging from yellow, green and blue smiley faces as an indicator. And dont forget the hotness factor ratings.
"I think that it is a great resource that students have available to them. It’s good to have an idea of what your instructor might be like; luckily it has always worked out for me," said Nicole Ferro, senior, Staten Island, N.Y.
On the other hand, some students are not so trusting and dependent on the site.
"I look at the site sometimes but I don’t base my entire class schedule around it. I’d rather take professors that I have had before and that my friends have had good experiences with," said Jonathan Okolowitz, senior, Johnston, R.I.
Sports

from it and move on.”

The minutes of the third quarter unraveled and it was clear the pace of the game changed dramatically as the scoring theme came to a sudden halt until Duquesne received a bolt of adrenaline from their quarterback once again. Knapp found Conrad Carter for a 23-yard scoring strike that gave the Dukes a 24-21 advantage. It was Knapp’s third touchdown pass of the match.

This catch wasn’t the only reception that hurt the Pioneers. Earlier in the first quarter right before the Dukes cut the Pioneer lead to 14-7, Carter caught a 20-yard pass that appeared to have hit the ground although the officials signaled it didn’t.

The defenses for both squads were sharp and froze the score while the Pioneers received the ball at their 15-yard line with 2:09 left for one last chance to tie or win the ballgame.

Arciaga engineered a 12-play drive that brought his trailing team to the Duquesne three-yard line with just three seconds remaining on the clock.

Pioneer kicker Nick Passalacqua lined up for the game-tying field goal, but the snap on the kick wasn’t accurate and holder Darío Meléndez was forced to roll out and find an open receiver in desperation.

Meléndez, who played quarterback in high school, found senior receiver Justin Jarry in the end zone, but the ball was dropped when he was tackled and time expired as the Pioneers stood in awe realizing they failed to send the game into overtime.

“I feel it is also imperative to learn from our mistakes, but also have a short memory in order to maintain a positive expectation for the following week,” said Arciaga. “What happens next week against Wagner is a new game with a clean slate.”

Sacred Heart, who ‘dropped’ to 1-3 on the early season, look to avenge this heart-breaking loss against the Wagner Seahawks at Campus Field this Saturday.

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Sacred Heart Pioneers

Garcia’s ‘Ro’adway to success

Chris Morrow
Staff Reporter

Senior Rolando Garcia of the Bronx, N.Y., has become an obvious strength on the Sacred Heart defense. Recognized by his coaches and teammates as a leader, he is focused on bringing that leadership to the field.

More often referred to as Ro, his strong defense and influence for the Pioneers football team landed him the honor of Co-Captain.

“Rolando is someone who wants to win and is not afraid to lead,” said Assistant Coach Mark Norfi. “Ro is the perfect example of what a captain should be.”

As a linebacker, opponents expect his hard-hitting defense. But Garcia has made an impact on the field as well as in the locker room. “The players feed off his energy and intensity, he is a leader of the defense as well as the whole team,” said Norfi.

Garcia has been a strong middle linebacker since his freshman year at Sacred Heart, a year in which he put up a total of 32 tackles, four of which resulted in a loss of yards.

“He is exactly what I would look for in a middle linebacker,” said Norfi, who is also the coach for the linebackers.

“(Rolando) leads by example,” said Head Coach Paul Gorham, after the game against Iona.

“(Garcia and Corto) give us field position and puts the need to score on the offense,” said quarterback Tyler Arciaga, Graduate Student, San Diego, Calif.

In 2004, Garcia improved with a total of 55 tackles causing a fumble.

Garcia in his third year in 2005 put up a total of 75 tackles, 13 of which resulted in a loss of yards. This also included four sacks and a fumble recovery. This was a drastic improvement from his sophomore season that resulted in only one tackle for a loss of yards.

Garcia proved he could penetrate the line.

In his first four games, Garcia has started out stronger than ever in 2006. Standing in second on the team with 36 tackles, only behind Jon Corto by one. Two and a half tackles so far, have been for a loss of yards.

In the season opener against Lafayette, Garcia led the defense with 11 tackles. But in the second game at Marist, he set a career high of tackles in a game with 14.

Sacred Heart opens up Northeast Conference play this Saturday home against Wagner at Campus Field at 1pm. Garcia has 198 career tackles and will be attempting to top 200. In last years meeting at Wagner, Sacred Heart lost 26-21. He finished the game with eight tackles and one and a half sacks.

Senior Co-Captain Rolando Garcia in action against the Duquesne Dukes this past Saturday.

Come out and support your Sacred Heart Pioneer football team on Saturday September 30 for the Homecoming game against conference rival Wagner College. Enjoy the game and receive inside access in next Thursday’s issue from Brian Fitzsimmons and Chris Morrow.
Sacred Heart finally got some shots off in the second half, but to no avail. In the 53rd minute, Britney Dupee, a sophomore midfielder from Portland, sent a pass across the box to Burbige. Burbige pushed it with her head towards the goal but Phillips was waiting for the shot and grabbed a save. Phillips had four recorded saves in the game.

“The header from Dupee’s cross I thought was for sure going in,” said Burbige, “just a bit of unfortunate luck on our part.”

The game seemed to change on that one play. The Black Bears began to pick up their offense and in the 61st minute Maine received a corner kick. Maine’s Marie-Michelle Honchari kicked the ball up and into the circle right on the head of Marie-Andrée Canuel. It appeared to be destined for the back of the net until the Pioneer’s Rojas came in and cleared it out for a team save.

A quick save by Rojas may have kept the Black Bear’s off the board but it only made the University of Maine eager to score. In the 65th minute, Maine’s Laura Harper broke ahead of the group and headed towards Mocarski. Harper was taken down from behind and given a penalty kick. The kick drifted to the right as the Pioneers avoided another attempt at a goal by the Black Bears.

The Pioneers prevented two more goals from being scored by the Black Bears and helped force the game into overtime. It was with under a minute that Dupee was sent a pass from the junior, Patricia Santangelo, from Rocky Hills, Conn. and had the game on her foot. But her shot just missed the goal as it fluttered up and over the crossbar sending the game into a second overtime.

At the start of the second overtime, Burbige, who played in her final non-conference game on Sunday, sent a shot down to the goal but was cleared. This would be the final chance for the Pioneers to score.

“I didn’t really think much of it being my last game today,” said Burbige. “I just go out there everyday and give it my all, this way when the season ends and my collegiate career is over, I have no regrets.”

However, the Pioneer defense left Fleurie open and that’s all the Black Bears needed. Mocarski reached for the ball but came up short as Fleurie put the ball into the top left corner of the win. Mocarski, who has started all nine games this season, ended with six saves.

The Pioneers, who won their first game against Holy Cross on Friday, ended the non-conference schedule with a 1-0-0 record. The Pioneers are riding a five-year streak of the Northeast Conference Tournament appearances, the longest active streak in the league.

Northeast Conference play begins next weekend.

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Central Division: center of attention

October is among us and the Minnesota Twins and Detroit Tigers are primed to make a run representing the American League in the World Series this season.

No, this is not a mistrake. Those Twins, who boast a payroll equal to that of the New York Yankees’ outfield, and the Tigers, who play in the major league’s best division have a chance to dethrone the White Sox. So the question is where do these guys come from? Well, consider this:

With a 25-33 record entering inter-league play, the Twins turned everything around to become the American League’s best team since the All-Star Break. So what does his team have that catalyzed them to the top of the American League?

Maybe the name Johan Santana rings a bell. Leading the way, the Twins Santana is sporting an 18-6 record with 240 strikeouts and a 2.79 ERA. They had the emergence of Francisco Liriano as the leagues best-young pitcher, who had a 12-3 record with 144 strikeouts with a 3.21 era, before losing him for an arm injury.

The Twins also have Joe Nathan who has 35 saves and is arguably one of the games better closers. The perennial all-star anchors a bullpen that is vastly underrated.

Then there is the offense. Yes, I know what you are thinking: the Twins actually have some offense.

First baseman Justin Morneau is the first Twin in years to hit over 30 home runs in a season. He stands at 34 now with 29 RBIs and is one of the several players involved in the same AL MVP talks that include Santana and shortstop Derek Jeter. Not bad company for a third year player to mentioned in.

Joe Mauer has asserted himself among the leagues best catchers in the game this season. A catcher with a .349 batting average, no big deal.

Torii Hunter, though bothered by injuries again this season, has been the team’s leader on the field and in the clubhouse and has played his normal outstanding defense.

Luís Castillo has been a blessing in disguise at the leadoff spot for the Twins and Michael Cuddyer, with his 22 homers and 101 RBI’s, gives the Twins more punch in the middle of the lineup.

The only team standing in front of the Twins in the central division, has been the Tigers. Detroit has been the team to beat in the American League since the first week of the season and secured their first playoff birth in over a decade his past weekend.

Their pitching staff has been incredible this year led by Rookie of the Year candidate Justin Verlander, flame-thrower Jeremy Bonderman and veteran Kenny Rogers. The bullpen also has Joel Zumaya, who tops out around 102 with his fastball, and Todd Jones who has converted 36 saves this season, finishing their games for them this season.

On the offensive side of the ball, the Tigers have Craig Monroe, who has 27 home runs and 89 RBI’s, and a resurgence Magglio Ordonez, with his .29 batting average and 102 RBI’s, in the heart of their lineup and catcher Ivan Rodriguez who has been the leader of this team as expected.

Carlos Guillen has proved that he is capable of being mentioned among the leagues best shortstops after a strong season. Guillen is batting .317 with 80 runs batted in to go along with 19 home runs.

What really turned the Tigers around is their manager Jim Leyland. Leyland came with a winning attitude to a team that had none and brought his team out of the cellar in his first season as manager.

These teams have far exceeded the predictions of most this year. With a division that included the defending champion White Sox, who many including myself, chose to repeat as champions this year and a Cleveland Indians team that was supposed to make a run at the Wild Card spot this year, it is no wonder the Twins and Tigers weren’t expected to do much.

However, with the wheels falling off for the Indians this year and the White Sox failing to show up at all in the month of September, the Twins and Tigers made the most of the situation.

So come October, all eyes will be on the two teams from the American League Central who showed that during this age of baseball, anything can happen.

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Top Performers: three stars for Sacred Heart

Britney Dupee Carisa Eye Jason Payne

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STATS: This sophomore scored four goals in the field hockey team's first conference game this season. They beat Monmouth 7-0.

STATS: This sophomore starred for the Pioneer women's soccer team this week as she scored two goals, including the game-winner against Holy Cross.

STATS: This junior runningback ran for 102 yards in a 24-21 heartbreak loss to Duquesne. It was his third game with over 99 yards this season.
Sports

Field Hockey stars conference run with win over Monmouth

Bridget McGowan
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart field hockey team relied on sophomore Carisa Eye once again, and as usual, she didn't disappoint.

Eye tallied four goals to help the Pioneers defeat the Monmouth Hawks, 7-0, in the first conference game of the season this past Sunday at Campus Field.

The Pioneers took the lead early when Colleen Carney received a corner pass from junior Leah Stroehr after a penalty and blasted the ball into the net earning her fifth goal of the season. Stroehr tallied her sixth assist of the season.

“Heading to the NEC’s, our biggest challenge is not underestimating our opponents,” said Carney, senior, Yorktown Heights, N.Y. “It is hard to tell how any other teams have done, and we just have to concentrate on our own game.”

The Pioneers continued to dominate the field late in the first half with a goal from Eye, who is the Pioneers leading scorer this season. With just 1:31 minutes remaining, the forward slammed the ball right past the Monmouth goalkeeper Chelsea Farley for her fourteenth goal of the season.

As the second half continued, it only allowed the Pioneers to increase the lead against Monmouth. Once again, Eye dominated the Hawks defense and scored her second goal of the game.

Monmouth was not able to keep up with 20:39 minutes left in the game, freshman Kelsey Zeyher scored her second goal of the season with an assist by junior defender Andi Cairo, allowing Sacred Heart to increase the lead to 4-0.

Within in one minute, Eye once again defeated goalkeeper Farley scoring two goals in a row, both off the rebounds of penalty corners.

Eye was previously named both the Enterprise Rent-A-Car athlete of the week and the NEC player of the week of September 11-17th. She has also been honored as the top player in the league. Eye currently has the record of the most points scored by a Pioneer in a game, with seven.

With the results of the numerous wins this season the Pioneers have proven that their strategy works and they plan on sticking with it.

“Our strategy this year is purely team work,” said junior defender Sara Yeaton. “We believe in ourselves and all that we have achieved therefore we must trust each other and our play to win.”

To top it off, Jean Howley struck with 11:32 minutes left in the game, as she attacked the ball and scored the seventh goal of the game. This allowed the Pioneers to earn their seventh win of the season and led them one step closer to their goal of repeating as NEC champions.

In the first half the Pioneers had already out shot the opposition 11-4 and the defense held the Hawks to have eight shots throughout the game.

“We have to come out there being the team everyone wants to beat,” said Carney.

With only nine games left in the season before the NEC tournament, the Pioneers will have to continue working hard and defend their former title.

“Going into the NEC games we look to be confident, but not too cocky,” said Yeaton. “We have worked hard to get where we are now and we definitely have something to prove, and that we can come back stronger to defend the NEC title.”

Now with a new record of 7-2, the Pioneers are on a roll and will look to extend their winning streak with a non-conference game on Wednesday against the Yale Bulldogs in New Haven at 7:00pm.

The Pioneers offense was as sharp as ever this past Sunday afternoon. Seven goals were scored and four of them came from Carisa Eye.

Upcoming Home Games:
Fri Sept 29 vs. Quinnipiac: 4 pm.
Sun Oct 1 vs. St. Francis 11 am.
Sun Oct 15 vs. Fairfield 12 pm.

Associated Press

Seattle is playing like a team on track for another Super Bowl. Pittsburgh is not. In a weekend full of strange doings, the Seahawks finally got their offense on track against the New York Giants’ struggling defense. Despite some late mishaps, Seattle looked every bit a team headed for its second straight NFC championship, and losing running back Shaun Alexander for a couple of weeks to a broken foot should be a minor setback.

The Steelers? With Ben Roethlisberger still struggling, they are 1-2. Sure, they came back from a mediocre first three-quarters of last season and won the-whole thing, but this would be harder _ they are down two games to both Cincinnati and Baltimore in the improved AFC North.

At the top level, Sunday provided a little definition to the early season, even in Week 3. But there also were some things that seemed very awry.

For one, visiting teams won 10 of the 13 games, including the Bengals over the Steelers in Pittsburgh and Chicago’s late win over the Vikings in Minneapolis, which set a tone for the two Norths. That’s part of the early trend: After three weeks, visitors were a remarkable 25-20, not counting Atlanta’s visit to New Orleans on Monday night.

But maybe the most interesting part was the disparate fates of the two most recent Super Bowl participants.

The Steelers’ 28-20 loss at home to the Bengals was not simply a case of Carson Palmer’s ability to find Chris Henry and TJ Houshmandzadeh in the end zone. The last two TDs, to Houshmandzadeh, came a minute apart in the final quarter after fumbles by Ricardo Colclough (on a punt) and Veronica Haynes.

Those fumbles were among five turnovers by the Steelers. Indeed, turnovers played a huge role in results around the league.

Three were interceptions thrown by Roethlisberger, who is recovering from an offseason motorcycle accident and appendicitis attack and was 18-of-39 for 209 yards.

Two of the INTs were with Pittsburgh in scoring position, including one on a third-and-10 from the Bengals with 16 Pittsburgh trying to tie the score in the closing seconds. But even more important may have been one Roethlisberger threw on first-down from the Cincinnati 6 on the first play of the second quarter when the Steelers seemed about to take a 14-0 lead.

The Seahawks offense was as sharp as ever this past Sunday afternoon. Seven goals were scored and four of them came from Carisa Eye.

Yes, the Steelers made the playoffs as the sixth and last seed in the AFC last season and won four straight to take the title. But now they are chasing two 3-0 teams in the AFC North after the Ravens capitalized on an interception of Charlie Frye to win in Cleveland on Matt Stover’s last-second, 52-yard field goal.

“There were a lot of ebbs and flows, but I think today was a big step for me,” Roethlisberger said.

He had better be right, because there are signs he will be needed more this year, both as a passer and a leader. There is no Jerome Bettis to do the leading and the short-yardage running, and the receiving corps is depleted with the departure of Antwaan Randle El.

So Big Ben, “runt” and all, will have to carry a bigger load.

As for Seattle, the Seahawks’ defense was solid in its first two games, but not so the offense, which will have to get along for a little while without Alexander. Last season’s league MVP has a cracked bone in his left foot and will miss at least a couple of games.

And it’s not as if Alexander was such a big part of Seattle’s offensive explosion Sunday. While Alexander only managed 47 yards on 20 carries, the Seahawks jumped to a 35-0 lead en route to a 42-30 win over the Giants, whose loudest mouths _ Jeremy Shockey this time _ shouted “we were outcoached.”

One major element was Deion Branch. Not in numbers (two catches for 23 yards) but in the fact the Seahawks were able to play a four-wide-receiver alignment that had New York confused and led to five TD passes by Matt Hasselbeck _ to four different receivers.

“It was a pleasure to play a little different way,” offensive coordinator Gil Haskell said.

It didn’t hurt that the Seattle defense came up with three first-quarter interceptions against a team that should have beaten the Seahawks last year and expected to be better this year.

It’s early, but Seattle has a schedule that easily could give it home-field advantage again in the NFC _ although given those home-away numbers, that might not mean anything.

The Seahawks go to Chicago next Sunday night in what will be more a test for the Bears than Seattle. Chicago’s win in Minnesota wasn’t very pretty, after all. Beyond that, there’s little that looks threatening other than a trip to Denver on Dec. 3 and a home game with San Diego three weeks later. Fortunately for the Seahawks, the NFC West might be almost as bad as the NFC North.
Pickens takes a look back at his 2006 picks

Baseball is one of the toughest sports to predict.
Players get injured, teams underachieve, front office moves do not pan out and it makes prognostications (and prognosticators) look ridiculous.

This reporter is never afraid to admit he is wrong, so I figured that I would take a look back to see how many of my picks from this publication in March were right and which ones deserved to go into the sewer.

The Yankees are clearly the superior team in the American League East despite the moves that the Red Sox and Blue Jays made to improve...they will breeze through the division with the best offense in the American League...

This prediction was right on the money, although it did take a while to pan out. The Yankees struggled throughout the first half of the season, but the addition of Bobby Abreu pushed the Yankees over the top to become the class of the American League East. Not to mention they have already clinched the division and appear to be rolling.

The Cardinals in the National League will follow suit. With great starting pitching in Chris Carpenter and Mark Mulder and an underrated back end of the rotation in Sidney Ponson and Jeff Suppan, the Cardinals are poised for another run to the World Series.

This prediction was half true. Carpenter has been lights out, especially recently, and Mulder has been injured with an ERA of over seven. Suppan has been relatively good, whereas Ponson was so bad he was released by the Cardinals, picked up by the Yankees and was subsequently released because he was nowhere near good. Meanwhile, the Cards have lost seven of ten, and are trying everything in their power to blow the division to the surging Astros and scrappy Reds who have been in the hunt all year.

John Smoltz pitched sterling for Atlanta...If he pitches well, they will be tough to beat.

Smoltz has been very good for the Braves (14-9, 3.72), but the Braves have been miserable. They have suffered injuries, and the lack of Major League talent is a big reason why they will not be in the playoffs for the first time in 15 years.

This year will be different for Red Sox fans...Their bullpen will be a question mark to see whether Keith Foulke will return to his old form. Mike Timlin and newcomer Papelbon will not do what Foulke was able to for a whole season.

This pick makes me look pretty good. Papelbon was great in the start of the year, not allowing more than one run for the first month of the season. But then he went down to injury. Foulke's career is pretty much over, and has been relegated to mop-up duties. Timlin has been the bright spot, but is still too spotty as a closer to do it every night.

AL Wild Card: Cleveland Indians
That was an atrocious pick. The Indians looked good last year until the end of the season. But, despite a monstrous year by DH Travis Hafner, 30 HR 117 RBI six grand slams, the Indians have been terrible. They have gotten little to no starting pitching other than C.C. Sabathia, and have clearly been passed by both the surging Minnesota Twins, and this year's breakout team, the Detroit Tigers in the AL Central.

- AL Cy Young: Mark Buehrle
Buehrle had been mediocre at best, struggling to regain the command that won him 16 games a year ago. Teams have gotten wise to him, especially as of late as he has lost seven of his last 10 decisions, after starting the year 9-4. Buehrle's ERA has ballooned 3.13 on June 15th to 4.59 in the span of three months. I dropped the ball by not going back to old reliable in the Cy Young race, in Johan Santana, and failed to foresee Chien Ming Wang as the force at the top of a rotation that he is.

NL East: Mets
I was right on with this pick as well. All the fans that predicted the Braves again, and said that no one could pick against them until they lost were wrong. I was right. David Wright has proven to be one of the best players in the National League and Carlos Beltran has been the second best overall player in the NL, behind Ryan Howard. The pitching has gotten much better with Tom Glavine, John Maine and even a contribution from El Duque, Orlando Hernandez.

As is the case with most experts, there are ups and downs. Picks we are proud of, and picks that make us say huh? Well for this "expert" this one was more down than up.

There's always next year.
Bring on the playoffs.

Have a question or comment?
Email your thoughts to Sports Editor Brian Fitzsimmons at FitzsimmonsB@sacredheart.edu

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Angie Horn-Andreu, M.Div., '07
Director, High School and College Ministries, Forest Home, Forest Falls, California

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AP PHOTO/CP Frank Gunn
Bobby Abreu and Melky Cabrera celebrate after winning their ninth straight AL East championship.
Brian Fitzsimmons
Sports Editor

The Pioneer football squad learned the hard way just how close the records of 2-2 and 1-3 could be.

On a campus littered with utter shock and concern after the shooting of several basketball team members, the Duquesne football team gave their fans a moment to cheer for, as they escaped with a 24-21 victory over Sacred Heart in Pittsburgh this past Saturday.

The Pioneers set the momentum in their favor early in the opening quarter, when junior running back Jason Payne turned their first drive into his own track meet by sprinting out 56 yards for a score.

"I think there was a genuine enthusiasm at the game that propelled us to play hard for 60 minutes," said Tyler Arciaga, senior, Bonita, Calif. "I feel both sides of the ball showed resolve and determination in order to put us in a position to win the game."

Sacred Heart continued their early dominance when they forced the Dukes to punt on their first drive, but then Arciaga's canon came into effect. The senior quarterback hit senior wide receiver Alvin Franklin for a 19-yard scoring strike after a seven-play, 59-yard drive.

The trailing Dukes erased their deficit quickly, as quarterback Scott Knapp connected with Bruce Hooker for two scores for over 30 yards each. However, it didn't take long for the Pioneers to grab the lead before the half mark.

"It was a team effort of losing the large lead," said J.J. Wilson, junior, Bloomfield. "The offense didn't move the ball and the defense didn't do their job of stopping their offense. We as a team need to capitalize on every opportunity we get to stop our opponent from scoring."

Sophomore wide receiver Corey Bundy grabbed a 44-yard bomb from Arciaga and gave the Pioneers a 21-14 advantage with 2:09 left in the first half. It was Arciaga's second touchdown pass of the game and twenty-third in his Sacred Heart career.

The Dukes were able to chip away at the Pioneers new lead, as kicker Mary Troyan booted a 37-yard field goal as time expired to send his team to the locker room trailing 21-17.

"The most frustrating part of the game is the inability to hold the lead we had going into halftime," said Arciaga. "It's similar to having a closer in baseball losing the lead in the ninth. These things happen, and you have to be able to learn from them."

The Pioneers came out in the second half with renewed determination to get back within striking distance.

"Maine is always a tough opponent for us," said Barbige, "but after the Holy Cross win the team as a whole gained a lot of confidence because the first win is always a big one. This was our first time playing Maine at our field and we love to play at home in front of fans."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12...

Pat Pickens
Spectrum Columnist

At Duquesne University, they are used to that right now.

All over campus there are signs, banners, flags. Hope reigns, yet they struggle to find answers.

Why did five of our basketball players get shot?

Why would anyone do this to five of our classmates, friends, teammates, and cohorts?

What do we do now?

What Duquesne did was look to move forward. There was a candle light memorial for the victims of this heinous crime. They had several large banners that student organizations wanted people to sign.

At the football game all involved wore wristbands with "5" on them to commemorate the five shot. There was a moment of silence.

The afternoon could be felt everywhere on campus, even by this outsider.

Students asked me if I was afraid, other SHU students with me had realistic fears, we all were guarded as we walked the campus of Duquesne looking to see not just another college campus, but what felt like another universe. It is simple to say that violence will not happen on our campus because it has not happened here.

But Duquesne is a school much like Sacred Heart. Right in the heart of Pittsburgh, it is small, private, and steeped in tradition of the Catholic faith that each of us shares. Nothing like shootings, or student-to-student violence should happen there, or anywhere.

All the people were friendly, and looked like ordinary people that I could bump into here, or anywhere. Sure, they dressed a little different, or were a little less tan than the people here, but no real marked differences.

Except they have a new outlook on things it's too bad it took such a disaster for them to change.

Duquesne looks to move on, and as of now I'm rooting for them.

We need all need a little bit of hope every now and then.

More exclusive coverage on Pioneer football on page 12

- The Sideline Report: Rolando Garcia
- Game Recap (cont.)