Left 'out' in the cold
50 year old transformer fails; SHU loses power
Ariane Rasmussen
Staff Reporter

Parts of the academic building were literally left in the dark over part of the weekend as a result of a power outage that left students confused and unable to access the Internet for hours.

The power outage affected the main academic building leaving the Hawley Lounge, the University Commons area, and parts of the HC and SC wings without electricity. It did not affect FLIK, The Mahogany Room, or the new sections of the HC and SC wings, or any other campus buildings.

According to Public Safety Director Jack Fernandez, the power outage was reported at 7:17 p.m. Friday night and power was restored at about 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Floyd Young, director of Building and Grounds, said the outage occurred because one of the transformers burned out.

The transformer was fifty years old and owned by United Illuminating (U.I.). It took U.I. about 7 hours to find the problem and place and wire the new transformers, said Young explaining that the school has back-up generators, but only for emergency lighting, not for any

See U.I. on page 2...
U.I. responsible for equipment failure

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the network.

At one point, U.I. had to shut down the power of the entire academic building for approximately 15 minutes during which time the cafeteria was also closed, said Young.

"We came down to get food and the cafeteria had to get shut down for a while," said Melissa Douglas, freshman, East Meadow, N.Y.

Mike Trimble, assistant vice president for Information Technology, was also contacted by Fernandez during the power outage.

Trimble initiated the I.T. department's power outage plan and brought the servers down which was why students were unable to access it, said Fernandez.

"I had no Internet at all from about 1 a.m. Friday night until about 6:30-7 p.m. Saturday night," said Maureen Curtis, junior, Yonkers Heights, N.Y. "It was just annoying because I think everyone has a routine to get up, check your e-mail, go on Facebook, check the news."

About 11 Saturday morning classes had to be re-located to an area where power was still available, but Fernandez said all ran smoothly.

"Because it was as a Saturday and kids tend to get up later in the day, [the power outage] didn't affect them as much as if it were a week day and FLIK being opened worked out well," said Fernandez.

As to whether such occurrence was expected, Young said, "No, it was not expected because it's not our equipment and we're not even allowed in the vault where it is. The normal lifespan of a transformer is 50-75 years and U.I. replaced all three transformers so we're probably good for 75 years."

Lynn Tomasz, freshman, Hopkinton, Mass., said, "I didn't think the outage would last for as long as it did. I thought there would be a generator or something that would allow for everything to work."

Young said that there are plans to install generators that are able to provide power for networks as well as provide emergency lighting.

"It'll probably be a summer time project because power will have to be shut down," he said.
Get ready to rock ‘n’ roll with Ruckus

The future of downloading sounds loud and looks bright

Ruckus Facts & Figures

According to a “New York Times” article on Jan. 22 entitled “Big Labels Offer Free Music to College Students,” Ruckus:

1. uses Microsoft’s Windows media technology, so songs can be played only on a user’s personal computer.

2. users can buy the right to transfer the songs to portable devices compatible with the Microsoft format including those made by SanDisk and Creative for $4.99 a month.

3. will not play any of the downloaded content and music on Microsoft’s Zune player or on the very popular Apple iPod.

what kind of reception Ruckus receives on campus.

The availability of Ruckus ranges from current students, to graduates and faculty members.

Gary Reho, director of William H. Pitt Center, Naugatuck believes Ruckus is a great opportunity and is evidence of Sacred Heart’s growth, especially in the multimedia world.

“This is a tremendous opportunity for both the students and faculty to have access to the free media, such as Ruckus,” said Reho. “This will keep many people away from downloading illegal music and causing problems for [Sacred Heart].”

“Personally, I can’t wait to use Ruckus. Now I will not have to worry about paying for every song I want to listen to and will be able to upload songs onto my new Ipod I received for Christmas.”

Searching for the perfect play list? Interested in what your friends are listening to? Yearning to find a new independent artist?

Ruckus might be able to satisfy your every entertainment need.

“I think this is one of the greatest things that Sacred Heart could have done,” said Lenahndem Tankeng, junior, Yonkers, N.Y. “I am a music lover but also a college student who can not afford to buy every CD that I like. Ruckus is like killing two birds with one stone.

“There is no doubt in my mind that I will be downloading Ruckus, and telling my friends to do the same.”

From. Nelly to Nirvana, Five for Fighting and 50 Cent, Green Street and the Goo Goo Dolls, SHU is ensuring that your entertainment needs are just a click (or two) away.

New cash registers: A step in the right direction?

FLIK invests in registers to ensure accurate payment and pricing

Leah Gallagher
Staff Reporter

While students took a hiatus from their studies to celebrate the holidays, FLIK took the opportunity to work on improving the Sacred Heart University dining experience with the addition of new registers.

“FLIK made changes over Christmas break by implementing new registers which hold accountability and more precise pricing,” said Courtney Weaver, sophomore, Queensbury, N.Y.

Weaver, who works closely with FLIK as a member of the Student Senate on the FLIK Committee, said this will be beneficial to both those who eat at FLIK and those who work for FLIK.

“You will never get two different prices if you go to the market place and buy a soda and then go to FLIK to buy a soda,” said Weaver. “It also shows the name of the cashier so if you were ever priced wrong you can be specific when talking to a FLIK Administrator.”

The accuracy these new registers create will eliminate a great deal of error in the system, Weaver said.

As to why FLIK felt it necessary to make such changes, Weaver said that they were made to “ameliorate the pricing issues with a focus on inconsistent pricing and accountability” as well as make the “cashiers more efficient.”

She explained that it will also help so that when a student complains, they’ll know who to speak with to fix the problem.

Students like Mariel Courtney, sophomore, West Roxbury, Mass, feel the new registers have already made a difference.

“Sometimes you would get charged different amounts by different cashiers for the same item,” said Courtney. “But that hasn’t happened to me once since we got the new registers.”

In addition to helping the people

See PRICES on page 4...
Ambassador Peter Terpeluk Jr. comes to campus

Students weigh in on the new member on the Board of Trustees

Brittany Price
Staff Reporter

"Peter who?"
That is the response received from most students when asked about their opinions on the new Ambassador Peter Terpeluk Jr. being named to Sacred Heart's Board of Trustees.

Terpeluk has served as the U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg for three-and-a-half years, worked in the Reagan Administration and both Bush Administrations. As the Luxembourg Ambassador he oversaw the construction of a new embassy.

According to the SHU website, Terpeluk "reinstated the role for U.S. Marines at the embassy and implemented the most modern security system for a U.S. embassy in Europe."

Terpeluk is also known for his influential position in creating transatlantic growth for Luxembourg. This growth brought large companies, such as Amazon, AOL, and Apple Corporate Headquarters to Luxembourg.

With his help, Luxembourg became the American center for technology in Europe. Terpeluk has a very long and impressive resume and now his skills will be put to use at Sacred Heart.

"Bringing someone to Sacred Heart with Terpeluk's knowledge and stature is a great move for SHU," said Jonathan Bernstein, sophomore, Staten Island, N.Y. "The Board of Trustees makes important decisions and it sounds like Terpeluk could be crucial in this process."

In a recent Sacred Heart press release, it states that Terpeluk is currently serving on the National Constitution Center Board in Philadelphia. From his Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Policy from LaSalle College to his a master's degree in Public Administration from Rider College, will students even notice his presence on the Board of Trustees?

"I don't know a great deal about Terpeluk and I’m sure the majority of students don’t either," said Peter Donohue, junior, Melville, N.Y.

Others, like Bernstein, believe that students like Donohue, do not know a lot about the Board of Trustees because they are not educated on their positions and who the members are.

"Many of my friends here have no clue about the Board of Trustees," said Bernstein. "Maybe because students do not see the members running around campus on a daily basis or because they really have no clue about their responsibilities."

And some students think that many are ill informed about the betterment of SHU. "Students are not informed whatsoever about what goes on through administration," said Bridget Steckis, junior, Wading River, N.Y. "It is like the administration is this weird vortex where none of the things that go on concern me or students in general. I am never made aware of where my money is going. I feel like it is SHU’s administrative duty to let people know what students are paying for and up until now they haven’t done so."

Brett Jones, junior, Staten Island, N.Y., agrees.

"If Terpeluk is able to make changes, students will notice him and maybe remember who he is," said Jones.

"To be honest I don’t know enough about him [Terpeluk] to accurately express his relevance and importance to my life."

Good Morning ‘Fairfield’: Robin Roberts to be guest speaker

Susan Patton
Staff Reporter

"It's a 'must mark the calendar' event." That's what Mary Beth Ingram, sophomore, Huntington, N.Y., said in anticipation of ABC News’ Good Morning America Anchor Robin Roberts, one of the guest speakers who will be speaking at the Edgerton Theatre on Feb. 8, at 7 p.m., in honor of Black History month.

"I’m really excited that Robin is coming to speak at Sacred Heart. I’ve been a big fan of Good Morning America for years, and look forward to seeing her in person," said Matt Miller, junior, Hillborough, N.J.

Roberts, who grew up in Pass Christian, Miss. and attended Southeastern Louisiana University, was greatly impacted by the devastation of her hometown by Hurricane Katrina. She has been a major supporter for Hurricane Katrina relief and has anchored a sequence of reports on its behalf.

In addition, Roberts has also worked on the AIDS crisis in Africa. She traveled there with Bill Clinton to give her viewers a "first-hand look" at what was going on in that region. She has also worked with sports casting for ESPN in the past and has won three Emmy Awards for her work.

Students are very excited about seeing her.

"I've seen Robin Roberts perform live on Good Morning America and her enthusiasm and passion for her work really shows in her performance on T.V. It's going to be nice having her come to Sacred Heart," said Lisa Isoldi, senior, West Islip, N.Y.

Tickets are still available at the Student Life office located upstairs in the Hawley Lounge. Prices are: $3 for full-time undergraduate students, $5 for faculty/staff/alumni, and $10 for the general public.

Issues on campus? Exciting events? Persistent problems?
Breaking news in your dorm, club or job?
Anything you want the Spectrum to cover?
If so, please contact News Editor Brittany Raine at rainebr@sacredheart.edu
Bush sends more troops overseas to Iraq

Recent deployment hits close to home and raises controversial questions

Ashley Stearns
Staff Reporter

President Bush’s recent decision to send 21,500 additional troops to Iraq has stirred emotions on- and off-campus adding to the existing controversy surrounding the war and its motives.

Overall, many of the students and staff had pessimistic views on the President’s choice. Many feel it is “pointless” to send 21,500 troops to Iraq. "President Bush is just trying to make one last move before he leaves the White House because that, in Bush’s opinion, is what will save his name but he is already doomed because he has made so many mistakes,” said Brian Germain, sophomore, Wallingford.

Other students were more hopeful, though still doubtful. "It is an interesting idea, but it probably will not work," said Alonzo Meek, senior, Wayne, N.J.

According to MSNBC’s article, "Admitting strategy error, Bush adds Iraq troops," President Bush said that "to step back now would force a collapse of the Iraqi government, tear that country apart and result in mass killings on an unimaginable scale."

On the other hand, Dr. Filar Munday, a Spanish professor at Sacred Heart University, said that going into Iraq in the first place was a major mistake and that to deploy 21,500 more troops to Iraq would only be "making a very bad idea worse."

Sophomore Courtney Weaver, Queensbury, N.Y. continues to stand by President Bush. She said she disagreed that sending troops to Iraq was a mistake.

Weaver said she feels sending troops into Iraq was a necessity America had to undergo, and that, by doing so, the United States took a powerful dictator out of authority that would have targeted nuclear weapons at the United States.

The controversy over the war and its motives continues.

Dr. Munday said the idea of Iraq having weapons of mass destruction was a "lie."

Weaver, however, said that if President Bush had not deployed troops in the past or continues to deploy them, the United States "will become vulnerable."

"This vulnerability would give power to Korea and Iran, countries with weapons of nuclear destruction," said Weaver. "If President Bush does not send more troops overseas, Americans are subject to new terrorist attacks because not protecting the Iraqi people will put Americans in danger."

Carol-Anne Dabek, office manager of Campus Ministry, said the war is costing the Pentagon about 3.9 billion dollars — "We need to focus on the safety of America and need to be financially prepared for future terrorist attacks."

As for a military draft, many students feel it is not a possibility. "There are enough people volunteering," said Weaver.

Pricing problems to be eliminated with registers

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

who buy from FLIK, the new registers have also helped the cashiers working for FLIK.

"The new registers are good," said Cheryl Sells, a FLIK cashier, Norwalk. "Everything is more clearly marked with the prices."

Now that FLIK has addressed the issue of pricing errors, they plan to move on to other concerns that have been brought to their attention.

For instance, "FLIK is trying to implement a more effective way of advertising the meals for the week, the action line and announcing the bundles so everyone can get the most out of their dining dollars," said Weaver.

As to whether students would take advantage of package deals were they more aware of them, Peter Swit, sophomore, Newington, said, "You never know exactly what goes with the bundle package but if it was easier to know exactly what goes with the package, I would take advantage of it."
Stressed out seniors - The heat is on!

Katie Carroll
Staff Reporter

As winter break comes to an end this is the last semester for many seniors at Sacred Heart University. Seniors Scott Wagner, Dawn Sapanaro and Dan Reda are facing the many challenges that they and other seniors must deal with as the end of college approaches.

There is no doubt that seniors are getting mentally prepared for graduation and their future careers.

“It’s bittersweet because it’s the last time I am going to be with college friends. However, at the same time it’s exciting because we are starting a new chapter in life. After this experience there are so many opportunities to look forward to,” said Dawn Sapanaro, senior, Ramsey, N.J.

Sapanaro spends most of her time writing a senior thesis that is 36-40 pages long which poses as her biggest struggle before graduation in the spring.

Senior Lauren Skutzka had a different set of goals that she set to accomplish before graduation.

“My college goal was to graduate with a decent GPA and make some amazing friends. So yeah, I definitely say I accomplished that,” said Lauren Skutzka, senior, Albany, N.Y.

Along with the pressure of having enough credits and a good GPA, senior Scott Wagner feels that senioritis is a major concern among senior students. The majority of seniors do agree with Wagner. Senioritis takes a toll on many academic studies, caused by the overwhelming desire to rush through the year.

Thoughts are racing through the minds of soon to be graduates will I get a job, will I be able to handle it, will I get a decent salary. You will soon be a responsible adult ready to take on the challenges of the workforce. Instead of concentrating mainly on schoolwork, seniors are now constantly thinking about what the future holds. If only we had this knowledge freshman year, it would make senior year be a whole lot easier.

“I am handling it pretty well. I am pretty much done with the whole college scene and ready to get out in the real world and make some money. The tired, drunk, broke college student is a tad old,” said Dan Reda, senior, Huntington, N.Y.

“The only thing that I am struggling with is classes that had I put off until now because I needed to pass all of them in order to graduate. I am taking 18 credits and that causes some pressure, but it’s not too overwhelming,” said Reda.

“My advice to future students would be to take as many credits as possible in your freshman, sophomore, and junior years so that your senior year is freed up for all the events that go along with being a senior,” said Reda.

As for Sapanaro and Wagner, they both agree on getting schoolwork done early so that students can enjoy college. These four years fly by and its important make some lasting memories.

“Take advantage of college, it’s a great time and I am going to miss it,” said Scott Wagner, senior, Franklin, Mass.

The final synopsis is to work hard early on, keep yourself on track, join clubs that are interesting to you, experience new things and make sure to gain the most out of your college experience.

Students sort out some last minute affairs at the Registrars office.

What are you looking forward to most about being back at school?

Paige Comito
Sophomore, Troy, Mich.

“Being away from the Midwest.”

Kelly Brooks
Junior, West Babylon, N.Y.

“The SHU Force dance performance this semester.”

Samantha McNillan
Junior, Manassas, Va.

“Being with close friends.”

Tatiana Garcia
Junior, Washington Heights, N.Y.

“Picking up my grades and seeing my friends.”
What I wish I knew as a Freshman

Rachel Marasca
Staff Reporter

Here we go again. The Spring semester has officially begun. Students are going back to classes, receiving “events of the day” e-mails, and standing in line for coffee in the SHU market as if we never even left.

What is it about the spring semester that makes so many students look forward to it? Is it the warm weather approaching, the possibility of a great spring break, or just the idea that the summer yet again is so close?

“I like the spring semester better than fall semester because it seems to go by so much faster,” said Ashley Lupinacci, junior, Manorville, N.Y.

“I think the spring semester goes quicker because students have a lot to look forward too. Spring break is only a month away and then shortly after it’s Easter break,” said Tara Piciotto, junior, Manorville, N.Y.

With the return from Winter break each grade seems to have gone through a change. Freshmen are no longer new anymore. Seniors have every inch of the campus down pat, juniors are beginning to contemplate that the end of college in sight, and seniors are realizing the end is near.

There is an obvious anticipation for the spring in most of these students, however, the preference of spring semester varies. Some go hand in hand with a heavier workload. Teachers aren’t as lenient and understanding as they were in the fall. Returning from Christmas break as difficult as coming back from summer break.

Workload goes back to normal when we return for the spring just like it was in December.

“As an English major, my classes are getting to be difficult because I am finishing up all my requirements so I have an easier senior year ahead of me,” said Noelle Burch, junior, Kings Park, N.Y.

This upcoming semester for most juniors is a very critical one. This is the time when all of our classes for our majors need to fit in to our schedules so we aren’t behind by the graduate the upcoming year. Students also begin to feel the pressure that at this time next year we need to be looking for “real” jobs.

“Being a business major I feel that the classes are getting harder as I go along. It’s beginning to bring the realization that at this point in college, it’s almost over,” said Lupinacci.

“As a Criminal Justice major, I’ve only gone to a week of classes so far but they seem to be much harder than last semester. I want to keep up with my friends. So, stay out late. Go out on a Tuesday with your friends when you have a paper due Wednesday. Spend money you don’t have. Work never ends, but college does...”

The first and most important reason to go to college is to do work and challenge yourself, however we are also here to have a little fun and enjoy ourselves. Spring semester seems to bring that out in all of us.

A new year with new problems

Jenna Coccia
Staff Reporter

With the beginning of a New Year and the 2007 spring semester under way, students are being sent through new and unusual obstacles. Because of school work loads and readjusting back into the swing of things, students are facing problems with the newly upgraded version of Webadvisor and Blackboard.

“Well when I first was getting my schedule for the first day of classes, Webadvisor said it reached the “maximum number of occupants” or whatever and I couldn’t get on. I thought that they should have planned for this since it had even been changed and remodeled,” said Stephanie Townsend, sophomore, Smithtown, N.Y.

Due to the remodeling of this online database the service was down and being repaired at a time when it was crucial to students who needed to finalize their schedules.

“Because web advisor was down I know a lot of students were having difficulties making schedules,” said Leigh Ann Sambus, senior, Dix Hills, N.Y.

With this service down and being repaired students were offered an alternate route. Thankfully the services of registrar and the helpful staff worked to accommodate the loss for the online services.

“The hardest part of returning to school was figuring out classes and finalizing my schedule at registrar because webadvisor was down,” said Kendall Quinlan, sophomore, East Longmeadow, Mass.

“With webadvisor down, I couldn’t fix my schedule unless I waited in the registrar line which took a lot of time as opposed to just doing it all online within minutes,” said Katrina Torres, Senior, East Hartford, CT.

Although many problems have been encountered early this semester, the newly upgraded services on Blackboard and Web G.P.A. that I got in the fall even with this harder course load,” said Piciotto.

As the famous singer Tom Petty said, “You have four years to be irresponsible here. Relax. Work is for people with jobs. You’ll never remember class time, but you’ll remember time you wasted hanging out with your friends.”

“Spring semester seems to bring that out in all of us.

He Said/ She Said...

Students growing concerns of the University

Bob Ray
He said

Sacred Heart University has grown in leaps and bounds over the past two decades.

Beginning with this growth there have been vast improvements and changes throughout the University. Sacred Heart has grown in many ways such as the size of our student body, the recent M.S. in education, and accreditation, the school of business has been named for Jack Welch of GE, the University has built new residence halls and varsity sports are beginning to compete in both the NEC and on the national scene more consistently with 30+ Division 1 spots.

The days of these strides have been immense for the students, employees and administration. However, there are still some concerns which need to be addressed in the future of Sacred Heart University if we want to continue to grow as we have in the past 20 years.

First, Athletic facilities are in need. The Pit Center is a great facility however; it is always packed between the 30+ team and public use.

There is always a need for more space and amenities will need to grow according to the size of them University’s student body. Money is always an issue for small universities, but growth in this field will be a must in the future to have such structures like a hockey rink, a baseball stadium and a varsity weight room.

Secondly, parking is a constant issue here at SHU. More parking spaces for students, employees and visitors will need to increase as the University grows. A parking garage is a great idea for either South Lot or the lot next to financial aid. SHU has grown so rapidly that we have not had the time to expand or meet the needs of the burgeoning student population. In the future this will need to be addressed.

Next, Sacred Heart will need to continue growing the size of their residence halls as the number of applications and accepted students increases.

Christian Witness Commons (formerly Ne) Hall is only a few years, and has been a great addition to the campus. Once again, this is much like the parking situation, where the university has grown so fast that simple “space” has become scarce, and the campus needs to grow in size to address the growth and potential of the university. Sacred Heart has done everything possible to expand in these two aspects (housing and parking) with limited time and in time the campus will grow to meet these changes.

As the administration of Sacred Heart University has done an exceptional job of addressing the huge growth over the recent years. Sacred Heart has been accepting more and more students and the university has gone from a once commuter only school to a standout among the Catholic universities in the New England and the state area with rising academic and 30+ D1 sports teams.

Only time will allow this University to expand to its full potential. The growth in athletics, academics and the student body will always create concerns, however, we have adjusted relatively well and our University is destined for great success over the next decade.

Dana Davis
She said

When you first come to Sacred Heart, there’s a sense of relief that every freshman experiences. You’re glad your parents are away, once you’re done with your eight a.m. you can go back to sleep, and attending classes in hello kitty pajama pants isn’t out of the question.

Sophomore year rolls around, and you still really don’t have all that much to worry about, besides classes. You and all of your friends still live on campus and can stumble back to each other’s places when you finally get home very early in the morning. Also, public safety can drop you off if it’s too late, or too drunk.

But once Junior year arrives and you finally have to drive to campus, that’s when Sacred Heart University becomes a whole new experience.

I have to believe that the number one complaint from students on this campus is parking.

I wouldn’t dare to attempt getting a parking spot in any of our lots from the hours of 11:30 a.m. to about 2:00 p.m. It’s just impossible. If you’re lucky, you can be all creep like and find someone to their spot in the depths of nor lot. And if you don’t have a car, you must shuttle it.

Waiting outside of Tuft while high schoolers are just getting out at the lovely Bridgeport Central High isn’t exactly ideal. Always wondering if you’re going to make the shuttle or if you missed it, is a thought that crosses many SHU students minds through the day.

One thing that certainly concerns me is, not drinking among students, not FLK mashed potatoes, but no other than promiscuity. Today I mistakenly received an email with the subject line of “penthouse party.”

Students all over this campus like to refer to themselves as “Shahs” or “pimples” and then throw themed parties or dress up like them and go to bars.

One time I was lucky enough to be sitting in the Mahogany room while someone was publicly on their Nextel mobile “bleeps” asking some dude if he “taped her doing anything bad” the night before.

It is me, or are students at Sacred Heart just too vocal about who they saw naked the night before? I feel like this is a topic that should remain only amongst close friends and our shrinks. Everywhere I turn, girls are going on about it as if it was some huge scandal with that guy who danced to some ridiculous Fergie song with them.

As students, we are entitled to our beers and free access to our school. Whether it’s the horrible indie music that the radio station plays, the limited internet access in HC 218, or the frigid temperatures that we sit through, almost our entire classroom, tell someone. Tell someone.
Don’t “Hinder” to “Goo” to the Spring Concert

Student Events Team chooses rock over pop

Kathleen Schultz
Staff Reporter

The rumors were going on before anything was announced, but the wait for the decision on who will play for the Spring Concert is finally over. Student Events team and administrators decided on having two rock concerts performing bands include Hinder and the Goo Goo Dolls.

After setting the bar so high with having the Black Eyed Peas and the Pussycat Dolls last spring, Student Events wanted to keep it up with a well known band, but decided to change the genre to accommodate all students’ interests and go rock instead of pop this Spring.

“I am thrilled that this year there is a rock band that is coming to our campus, the Goo Goo Dolls are one of the bands that everyone will enjoy,” said Amy Dion, sophomore, Marion, Mass.

Each year Sacred Heart University meets with their event agent that provides a list of performers that are willing to play at college campuses. Administrators and student government, student life and others who know the needs and wants of our campus gather to decide the best music pick for our campus.

This year the group planned to have Hinder open for the Goo Goo Dolls, but Hinder was willing to do their own concert. So the decision was made to have two concerts instead of just one.

The Goo Goo Dolls concert will be held March 23 and Hinder will be held on April 27. Both concerts will be held at the Pitt Center beginning at 8 p.m. and doors opening at 7 p.m. There will be a concession stand and a merchandise table for the fans.

“It’s nice to see rock bands come to play rather than some pop group. I have always been a fan of the Goo Goo Dolls, but just have never seen them,” said Erin Barry, senior, Pompton Plains, N.J. “I can’t wait to hear the Goo Goo Dolls play their song, Iris.”

“Lips of an Angel” is Hinder’s most popular song now on the radio. The Goo Goo Dolls are best known for the song “Iris” from the City of Angels soundtrack.

Tickets go on sale Tuesday, February sixth and will be sold in Hawley lounge. Tickets will only be available to full time undergraduate students from 8 to 10 a.m. Tickets for the Goo Goo Dolls are $15 dollars each and for Hinder they are $12 dollars each.

Student price is valid all day. To accommodate the students interest in both of the bands, a package deal will be offered $20 for both concerts saving students $7. After February sixth all tickets will be general admission and open to the public. It will be $25 for the Goo Goo Dolls and $20 for Hinder.

“The student package deal will definitely have an impact on how many students will come, no doubt they will sell out,” said Kelly Linskey, junior, Seal Beach, Calif.

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**Globe, for best actress in the film The Devil Wears Prada and Sacha Baron Cohen for best actor in his film Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit glorious Nation of Kazakhstan.”**

“I saw Borat twice,” said Victoria Torres, sophomore, Riverhead, N.Y. “I definitely think Sacha Baron Cohen deserved to win best actor. I think he is very talented.”

Dreamgirls won best motion picture for a musical or comedy against strong nominees such as Borat, The Devil Wears Prada, Little Miss Sunshine, and Thank You for Smoking. Babel also received a Golden Globe for best motion picture of a drama.

“T was upset to see Babel win,” said Arnold Craven, junior, Suffield. “I felt that it should not have won best motion picture. The Departed would have been more appropriate.”

Now, for those who follow television shows religiously every week, seeing the winners for best television series was a favorite.

“I was so excited that Grey’s Anatomy won for best television drama,” said Allison Hunter, sophomore, Cranford, N.J. “Although I was disappointed that Patrick Dempsey did not win the award for best actor.”

With Hugh Laurie taking the award for best actor for his performance on House, other big winners included Alec Baldwin for his acting in 30 Rock and America Ferrara for her role in Ugly Betty.

Even though the Golden Globes of 2007 have ended, there are still the Oscars and the Grammys to look forward to.
American Idol Hits High Premiere Ratings

Cristin Colucci
Staff Reporter

Last Tuesday and Wednesday, American Idol's sixth season premiered in a 2 hour special each night. Auditions were held in Minneapolis and Seattle, where the judging was tough and ratings were high.

With the new season, American Idol found its highest premiere ratings with 57.6 million people tuning in. It also gave Fox its highest rated night ever with the most viewers between ages 18-49.

"I think it is going to be interesting considering the different talents that are out there and how hard Simon is, especially this year, on the contestants," said Mike Pezza, sophomore, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Simon Cowell appeared to be harder during the Seattle auditions where he thought that it was the worst audition city that he has ever been to. Although Cowell seems to pass a lot of judgment on the singers, the talent always stands out later in the season.

"I don't think that American Idol is meaner this year, I think they raised the bar, they have higher expectations and the talent is better," said Alexis Dedousis, sophomore, Scotch Plains, N.J. "If they were not critical, how a singer tried to hit a note, the show would not have any ratings at all."

A lot of people tune in to the beginning of the season to watch how the judges will react to the contestants who think they are the country's next singing sensation.

"I especially like watching the auditions because the way that the judges ruthlessly evaluate the contestants is good entertainment," said Victoria Conte, sophomore, Huntington, N.Y.

Simon’s comments towards the contestants are very blunt, which the audience has become accustomed to, but Randy's comments have become more mocking than helpful this season.

"Simon is just as mean as he always is, but this season Randy is even more mean than Simon at times especially because the audience does not expect it from him," said Allie Gillman, sophomore, Budd Lake, N.J.

The range of people that audition for American Idol, whether they have all the talent in the world or are highly lacking in that area is what brings in the audience.

With cruel judges giving harsh commentary to those willing to face them during auditions, it’s no wonder that this show has such high ratings.

Tom Sartori: singer, songwriter, and poker player

Lisa Brown
Staff Reporter

Saturday night, January 20, Tom Sartori and his band performed for a crowd of students in the Edgerton Theater.

Sartori's band has shared the stage with artists including Jessica Simpson and Gavin DeGraw.

Band members include Timi Grimaldi on drums, "Fish" on Bass Guitar, Kenny Witman on the Saxophone, and Tom Sartori the lead singer and guitarist.

Sartori recently won $300,000 at ESPN's 2005 World Series of Poker after coming in 26 place out of thousands.

This gave him the opportunity to invest in his music career. He has made it clear that his abilities go far beyond poker. He was voted "Top Acoustic Performer Award" in Artie Vein's Magazine and "Top Performer Award" of the Buffalo Music Awards 3 times.

Sartori's first hit single "One More Whiskey" off their album "Long Ride Home" has been playing on radio stations across the country. It has risen up to the top 50 on the national Radio & Records charts and their single has even made it to number 1 in some cities.

Their Performance at Sacred Heart University started off with the song "Wait for me" an acoustic song about being on the road. Many of the songs thereafter consisted of the common theme of heartbreak.

“My favorite part was when the Saxophonist came into the audience, I am absolutely a fan" said Brianna Raalf, sophomore, East Northport, N.Y.

The band also played the song "Walking in Memphis" upon the audience's request.

"We were all dancing" said Meghan Dick, freshman, Mount Sinai, N.Y. "Best concert I've ever been too, I can't wait to buy the album."

Tom Sartori's parent's originally discouraged him from pursuing a career in music; they said he'd end up broke and lonely. After hearing his album which they really liked they encouraged him to record a more upbeat, happier song.

Sartori took their advice and recorded the song "Possibilities" about new beginnings.

The band also played an old Elton John song that they hope to record on their next album.

The concert ended with a song called "Trust," and after the show the band sold their album and even signed them for students.
Features

Drop in weather leads to the common cold and flu

Taylor Higgins  
Staff Reporter

As the weather becomes colder and the snow starts falling, students have yet another distraction on their minds: the cold and flu season.

While there is no cure for the cold or flu, students are actively taking measures like eating well, taking vitamins, drinking lots of fluids and getting plenty of rest to stay healthy.

“I’ve been on my toes this winter about not getting the flu,” said Jenna Spadaccini, junior, Mountainside, N.J.

“If I feel a cold coming on then I usually lay low until I start to feel better,” said Spadaccini.

Another student takes a different approach.

“If I start to feel sick, I just make some chicken noodle soup, and drink plenty of ginger ale,” said Rose Alvarez, junior, Berkeley Heights, N.J.

“That’s what works for me,” said Alvarez.

Another way to stay healthy this winter and reduce the risk of catching the flu is to get vaccinated with the flu shot.

Students can receive the flu shot by making an appointment at Health Services.

“However, because the particular flu strains that the vaccine protects against may not be the same ones that are going around your area, the vaccine is not always 100% effective,” states flufacts.com.

Therefore, students who receive the vaccination must continue to take precautions to avoid getting the flu.

According to the nurse practitioner, Brenda Dunlap, at Health Services, there are ways to tell if you have a cold or the flu, and certain steps to take if you get sick.

“First of all, most colds start off as a virus, and viruses fill your head with fluid. Your tonsils start to get swollen, you start to feel miserable, and your temperature rises,” said Brenda Dunlap, nurse practitioner.

Fairfield.

“It takes about four to five days with proper rest, proper diet, and maybe a good multi-vitamin to get rid of it,” said Dunlap.

“There is no cure, but there are steps to make you feel comfortable, like Sudafed and Mucinex to clear up your head,” said Dunlap.

“If, after four or five days you still don’t feel better, you should make an appointment with Health Services to rule out the possibility of an infection,” said Dunlap.

“Other than that, the rest is just good common sense. Always wash your hands, eat right, and sleep right,” said Dunlap.

The best treatment to avoid getting a cold or the flu is prevention. Simple steps and common sense can be the difference between a runny nose or a week in bed.

New year means new and available jobs on campus

Joe Di Guglielmo  
Staff Reporter

For many students, returning to Sacred Heart from summer or winter break to start a fresh new semester often times means the end of that part-time job and the return of being broke once again.

During the first few weeks of the semester many students realize that they must add a part-time job to their already hectic schedules and scramble to look for ways to make some cash.

Local businesses are usually bombarded by those seeking to become employed and positions quickly fill up.

As a student of Sacred Heart, the facility has provided you with the means to be employed with a job on campus if you desire.

This opportunity is sometimes overlooked by those not realizing what they need is within reach and often times goes unnoticed by many.

There are two ways of being employed on campus.

The first is being hired through Work-Study, which is a program of financial aid funded through the federal government that helps students manage their school expenses.

For those wondering if they are able to participate for this program, you would be alerted through your Financial Aid Award Letter if you meet the qualifications.

If you are awarded the opportunity, the next step would be to fill out an application that remains in your file and then get a Referral Form from the Financial Aid office that will provide you access to Kronos (electronic timescard) upon being approved for a position.

The Work-Study program also has positions that provide students with access to work in the Bridgeport school system, which can be beneficial for those looking for experience in working in a structured or educational setting.

The second method of working on campus is simply being hired through an office to work part-time.

This method works on a first-come-first-served basis and provides the individual with a job just like any other they might find off campus.

Students often find that the benefits of working on campus outweigh the annoyances of having to commute to a job.

Some may find that their class schedule complements their work schedule accordingly, so that they can put a few hours in at their job and then simply walk to class right afterward.

Aside from not having to worry as much about transportation, a person that settles into a job on campus also has the opportunity to spend more time being surrounded by their peers and other campus faculty.

This provides a productive way to become better acquainted with what is happening within the SHU community and remain publicly visible to those around you.

Getting experience in a work environment is also something that one will gain. Attaining a job with SHU can help take the frustration out of needing to have experience to get a job, while also needing a job to get experience.

Working for Sacred Heart is a great way to stay busy for those always looking to be motivated and keep

ing active.

“Working on campus keeps me busy and with less downtime, but I enjoy working in the IT Department,” said Tom Bathe, senior, Westchester, New York.

Advice to those seeking employment is to get in as early as possible.

“You want to go try and set up for an interview within the first five days of the semester,” said Andrew Marvin, sophomore, Newington.

Marvin works as a manager in the Student Union office.

Applying for a job is the same as applying for any other job.

Simply fill out an application and wait for further instructions from the head of the department you are applying to.

“It was really easy, I just walked in and they interviewed me. I showed them my class schedule and they made my work schedule so it would fit around it,” said Rob Cioffi, who works in the SHU Bookstore.

“It’s a pretty easy job and very convenient for me,” said Cioffi.

Students can find employment in many departments of the school, including: Student Life, The Learning Center, the Student Union office, IT Call Center, the Bookstore, FLIK, and more.

For more information go to the office of the department you are interested in.

For the Work-Study program, ask to speak to someone in the Financial Aid office for further assistance.
Thoughts on chapel groundbreaking

Jennifer Spinelli  
Staff Reporter

Groundbreaking for the chapel happened slightly over a month ago and since then it has been the talk of the campus. Opinions of the topic are varied, as there is much to consider when thinking about the new construction.

"The chapel is a long overdue symbol of the University," said Dr. Gary Rose, Chair of Government and Politics.

"We are emphasizing the Catholic tradition, being the second largest Catholic college in the northeast behind Boston College and that it is hard to imagine; a faith based institution without a sizeable and very discernible chapel in many ways it will become the centerpiece of what our school symbolizes," said Dr. Rose.

Yet there is another side to consider: "Although a proper place of worship is essential to Catholic spirituality, I feel that the $17 million reported is budgeted for the project is truly exorbitant. I feel other projects, like parking and an expansion of the library should have some money and attention paid to it," said Kevin Hannigan, senior, Floral Park, NY.

"Everyday classes are interrupted by students who could not find parking and I feel this should be addressed first, as the students are here to learn," said Hannigan.

When the chapel is complete, by September 2008 it will include gardens, a terrace, and a bell tower.

Functions that are not as large in numbers can also be held in the new chapel for when it is finished it will have a main room that will hold 500 people. It will also include a smaller room that will hold 50 people for everyday services.

"In my opinion the chapel we have now is not of sufficient size to accommodate a student body of over 3,000 members," said Gabriel Garcia, sophomore, Campus Ministry COR team, Coram, NY.

"This is made clear by the fact that we have to use places like the University Commons and the Edgerton Theater to hold Sunday mass. The construction of the new chapel will give campus ministry a proper center of operations and provide more than enough space for large functions," said Garcia.

"As a Catholic institution, having a chapel that can meet the spiritual needs of the community is an essential part of the University's identity. It shows the maturity and excellence of the University in its commitment to ministering to both mind and spirit," said Dr. John Michniewicz, Director of the Music Department.

"As the Director of the Music Program, I think it will also be fantastic as an additional place on campus for the choirs, musical groups and other performers to offer their talents and concerts in such a beautiful and uplifting space. The Chapel will feature a grand pipe organ that will be an exciting addition to the musical possibilities on campus," said Dr. Michniewicz.

Although there are some concerns over the overall opinion of having a new chapel is a bright one. The Sacred Heart Community seems to feel that the chapel is essential to a Catholic University.

Spring semester allows a fresh start

Alyssa Larson  
Staff Reporter

Spring 2007 is here. Getting back to school on the right track after a vacation is always a struggle. Here are some tips to keep you from falling behind academically.

If your grades were not what you wanted last semester, here is a chance to redeem your GPA.

Set a goal to do your work before you go out with friends. Once accomplished, reward yourself with a fun night out.

This is much more productive than putting off school work until later; a common sight with college students.

"I motivated myself to read my Sociology book so I could go out on Thursday night and not having to worry about doing it the day after," said Elizabeth Koenig, sophomore, Harrison, N.Y.

Focusing becomes virtually impossible when your mind wanders from one topic to another.

Personal worries stray the focus away from your goal; outside distractions become more appealing, and if the material is not interesting or boring students are just not interested.

Practicing better study habits in a distraction free environment will improve academic performance.

External distractions are related to the physical study environment.

Avoid noise; conversations, phone calls, the Internet; e-mails, daydreaming, and television.

Common internal distractions are: hunger; tiredness; Illness, lack of motivation; boredom; lack of interest, personal worries; stress; anxiety, negative thinking and daydreaming.

One helpful tip; choose a chair that supports your back.

"Also, have everything you need right at your desk, have adequate lighting, and schedule the most difficult material when you are mentally at your best, either in the morning or in the evening," states http://www.studygs.net/concen.htm.

By getting a jump start on school work can help avoid feeling overwhelmed and stressed since the work is only going to pile up.

Making a checklist of each assignment to ensure each assignment gets completed before the next class.

With each check, the feeling of accomplishment will create more of a motivation to finish the entire list.

"Changing topics every one to two hours and taking regular mental study breaks (periodical relaxation) to walk around and re-gain focus to complete each assignment," states http://www.studygs.net/concen.htm.

Each study break should be about twenty minutes to walk around in a different atmosphere. Then go back review and remind yourself what you have worked on.

At the end of the study session, review again recapping the main points. The feeling of success by knowing the material will help motivate to continue each new assignment.

One common goal between students: "To get good grades so I get into Grad school," said James Schiener, sophomore, Medfield, Mass.

Setting sights on the future is motivation to succeed. Being ambitious and focused with both short term and long term goals will keep you grounded on what is important.

When the work load becomes unbearable, feeling depressed, homesick or just on the verge of giving up, the Counseling Center is available 9am-4:30pm Monday-Friday.

Don't hesitate to get help. Good luck with the semester.

Ciao, from Italy

Jenna Rignanese  
Staff Reporter

Have you ever had the desire to travel and leave your busy world behind for a while?

If this idea lights a fire in your heart, then study abroad!

The process of applying is rigorous but it is very rewarding. During the spring semester of my sophomore year, I began to think seriously about traveling to Rome during my junior year.

My schoolwork became my top priority. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher is a necessity for being accepted into the program.

Maintaining a consistent average will secure your spot.

Over the summer months, I tossed and turned over the idea of getting on a plane and landing in a place I’ve never seen, with a language I do not speak.

After many sleepless nights my decision was to go for it, regardless of whatever may come my way.

I had the grades from the spring, and now the summer would be my time to save money. While separate jobs, the thoughts of Italy motivated me through my days of work and little play.

Once the summer was over, I realized the money saved was not going to last me all semester and into my trip around the world.

Like a normal college student, I couldn’t grasp the notion, "where does the money go?" This dilemma did not stop me!

Sacred Heart’s financial aid program offers the same benefits at all of the overseas institutions.

The entire trip cost is equivalent to Sacred Heart’s normal tuition plus $1000. If your parents are willing to help you out, take them up on the offer as well.

The summer flew by and before I knew it meetings were held and applications were distributed in September. Recommendations, paper work, and essays made up the first of the many "Rome packets."

Quickly, the deadline of October 1st arrived. Two weeks later, the acceptance letters were out.

Twelve students from Sacred Heart were headed to Rome, Italy and there was no turning back.

Along with the excitement, came the nerves.

What was I thinking leaving the people I love behind for three months? How would I survive without knowing the language? Would I be homesick or have culture shock?

Of course, everyone goes through feelings of apprehension, but what it comes down to is the experience of a lifetime.

Making the most of my four years of college, and taking in knowledge, skills, and different cultures is important to finding out who you are and what you believe.

My best advice, go for it! Get your grades up, get your papers done, talk to people, meet the deadlines, and most importantly don’t hold back!

What’s most important to you will be here forever, so enjoy your memories and the memories of your trip will last a lifetime.

Ciao.
**Sports**

**BRIEFS**

Pat Pickens said at the start of the season he saw something special in the men's basketball team. Now, after six out of seven NEC wins, his opinion still stands the same.

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Stephanie Boulay displayed why she is the senior leader on the women's hockey team, writes Gabrielle Castanella.

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The men's ice hockey team slipped to Dartmouth, but Jason Smith doesn't see this as a road block, writes Christopher Armellino.

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This could be the start of a dark era in baseball Hall of Fame, writes Brian Fitzsimmons.

For more sports coverage, please log on to the Spectrum's website: www.sacred-heartspectrum.com.

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**“Red Wave” sightings wanted**

Joey Henley is averaging 14.7 points per game in the NEC, and 11.6 overall. The Pioneers will need to have everyone step up in the stretch run of the season.

**Men's basketball keeps on rolling**

Jay Gagliardi
Staff Reporter

Entering the final month of regular season play, the Sacred Heart men's basketball team find themselves atop the NEC and in high hopes to make the NCAA tournament for the first time in school history.

Sacred Heart's men's basketball team traveled to Pennsylvania with a two game road trip awaiting them. SHU entered the two games in first place and in control of the NEC Conference standings. With back to back wins against the likes of Robert Morris (PA) and St. Francis (PA), the final stretch of the season looks promising for Sacred Heart.

On Saturday, Sacred Heart defeated St. Francis (PA) 72-64 to enter a team into its third straight win and a return home with a 6-1 conference record and a 10-8 record overall. Senior guard Jarrid Frye led the Pioneers in scoring with 22 points, shooting 8-13 from the field. Freshman Chauncey Hardy added 16 points coming off the bench and was perfect from the free throw line (5-5). Sacred Heart shot 47% from the field in the first half and out shot the opponent by 11% in the second half.

Sacred Heart started the game on a 12-1 run and ended the game on a 9-1 run to assure the Pioneers of an important victory away from home. Sacred Heart saw its opening lead dwindle as the first half went on, and the Red Flash were able to cut the lead to only two by halftime. But thanks to excellent shooting by the Pioneer's in the second half, the team wrapped up its third straight victory.

“Our game plan for last night's game was simply to continue to play well and with a consistent effort. If we were able to do this, then we knew we would be successful,” said Luke Granato, sophomore, Rocky Hill.

The Pioneers next game is against in state rival, Central Connecticut Blue Devils at 2 p.m. on January 27th in New Britain Connecticut. The Pioneers, look to continue their stellar play and earn home court advantage for the NEC tournament. The team feels very confident that they can make a run at the conference title and gain a bid into the Big Dance come March.
Without Burke, Pioneers forced to Kerri on

Coming into this season, the Pioneers were the odds on favorite to repeat as NEC champions. With four returning starters from the championship team, it was easy to see why. Yet the season did not start off as expected as the team suffered some tough defeats and was bitten by the injury bug.

Ironically, all four of the returning starters have experienced and injury throughout this season, forcing Pioneers’ coach Ed Swanson to rely on his bench more often this season.

One of the key injuries for the Pioneers was to senior guard, Kerri Burke. In a game against Mount St. Mary’s on January 3, Burke tore her ACL and lateral Meniscus, an injury that generally spells the end of a season for an athlete.

Burke was left with only a few options after the injury occurred. Since she was three games over the red shirt limit, her options were either season ending surgery or to try and rehab her knee to come back for the season.

“I am going to push surgery back until after the season which is sometime in April and try and come back at the end of the season when my rehab is done” said Burke.

During her rehabilitation, Burke has had the support of her team to help her along.

“The whole team has been so supportive, from all my teammates to the coaching staff. It has made things much easier.”

Yet, Burke has not let her injury stop her from helping the team, albeit in a different way.

“I have taken on a different role, one that is completely different than my role before the injury. But I want to try and help this team anyway I can and if it can’t be me on the court, it means I have to be their number one fan and the biggest cheerleader, then that’s what I will do.”

Yet what the Pioneers need most is Burke’s ability to run the Pioneer’s offense like she has in the past. The Pioneers have played well as of late sporting a 7-1 conference record after a victory over Robert Morris on Monday night.

Burke had 16 points as the Pioneers rolled to a 73-52 win. Also contributing were 30 points from senior center, Bethany Burton, 14 from junior forward, Rachel Polansky, and 12 from junior guard, Ashley Egan.

The women’s basketball team has missed Kerri Burke’s hustle, leadership and talents during the time she has missed due to injury. She will try to return to the court in three weeks after an extensive rehabilitation program.

Women hoops seeing red; suffer first NEC loss

Alyssa Iannoti
Staff Reporter

The St. Francis Red Flash defeated the Sacred Heart women’s basketball team on Saturday marking their first conference loss of the 2007 season.

The 69-63 route ended a five game winning streak for the Pioneers, who are now 7-1 in the NEC and 12-7 overall. The Red Flash improved its record to 2-6 in the Northeast conference and 5-14 overall.

Sacred Heart came out to a sloppy start in the opening half with Saint Francis taking an early lead and looking strong, although the Pioneers roaring back to tie the game at 33 apiece with two minutes left in the half. However, the Red Flash answered back with a pair of jumpers to take them into halftime 37-33.

The second half the Red Flash lead 42-35, but their offense struggled and would go scoreless over the next seven minutes. The Pioneers used this to their advantage to go on a 12-0 run to put them up by four with 12 minutes remaining. The Pioneers went up 52-50 with seven minutes to go and then the Red Flash answered with a 6-0 run to get the lead back for good.

“I think that we came out to a really slow start,” said senior, Amanda Pape, Stamford. “We always do better when we come out and knock the other team back. We couldn’t seem to get into our normal flow of the game and get our defensive stops.”

“I take my hat off to Saint Francis. They were better prepared and came out with a lot of energy,” said head coach Ed Swanson. “They dictated the tempo of today’s game right from the opening tip and their first possession. They took it right to us and we just didn’t respond.”

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

Men’s volleyball opens season in style

Erica Sawyer
Staff Reporter

The Pioneers started off on the right foot this season with a 3-0 win by final scores of 30-18, 30-26 and 30-28 over the Lasell Lasers, in a spirited match that could lay the groundwork for a successful season.

This season’s opener, Monday Night in the Pitt Center, was a close game against Lasell, who put up a good fight and made several come backs throughout the match. The Lasers were consistent on keeping the game tight and the Pioneers on their toes.

The final game was the tightest game throughout as the opponents battled heads in a final effort to win. Although the Pioneers had some leeway in their favor when they took a 26-24 lead against Lasell, but the Lasers made yet another come back taking the lead 27-26. However, the Pioneers were able to run off four of the five points before the final score, sealing the victory.

Ivers carried the Sacred Heart men in the final game last night, marking up seven winners leading the Pioneers to win.

For Lasell, the MVPs were Andy Cass, with six kills. Tyler Hammond, and Dwayne Cartenga with five kills each, proving to be tough opponents in their losing attempt.

After just losing two players to graduation, the Pioneer men’s Volleyball team is a relatively young team with outstanding chemistry. However, the Pioneers still have some big shoes to fill. Last year’s two-year starting libero, Brent Menden holds a long-standing reputation that will be hard to replace, but three newcomers, Michael Cortina Commock, N.Y., Kalani Efstatihou of Beaverton Ore., and Scott Grandpre of East Greenwich R.I. seem up for the challenge. With the right mix of fresh talent and strong leaders, things are looking good for the men’s volleyball team this season.

This season’s team leaders, senior Mike Ivers of Philadelphia and senior John Breen of North Andover, Mass collectively racked up 22 kills (Ivers 14, and Breen 8) and 32 assists. These upperclassmen proved to be the heavy hitters of the match Monday night.

The Pioneers are on the road this coming weekend, as the men travel this Saturday to engage in a tri-match with Elms College and Newberry College, at 11 a.m. at Newberry in Boston.

Boulay shines in goal with shutout; women win

Gabrielle Castanella
Staff Reporter

Despite being out shot, senior goalie Stephanie Boulay of Anchorage, Alaska stopped 34 shots, and the Sacred Heart women’s ice hockey team defeated Hamilton, 3-0, Sunday at the Wonderland of Ice.

A pair of sophomores hooked up for the first goal. Whitney Dziama set up Gina Arnone and she notched the first goal of the game on Sunday, just 56 seconds in.

The second goal came 4:35 into the first period from freshman Jenn Brager. It was a milestone for Brager, as she tallied her first career collegiate goal. Seniors Michelle Panella and Katelin McLaughlin assisted her.

Boulay protected Sacred Heart’s lead from there. In the two games played this past weekend against Hamilton, Boulay allowed one goal against of the 69 attempted shots.

Junior Sarah Hickman of Amherst, Mass. capped the scoring for the Pioneers, at the 16:46 into the third period.

“We’ve been on a losing streak. This weekend helped get us back on the right track by working together and it will bring us into Tuesday’s game,” said Alexis Dedousis, sophomore, Scotch Plains, N.J.

The next home game for these Sacred Heart Pioneers is scheduled for Tuesday Jan. 30, at 7:00 p.m against Wesleyan.

Men’s hockey falls short to Big Green

Christopher Armellino
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart men’s hockey team had a trying time on Saturday’s game against Dartmouth, who posted a potent comeback attempt while being down, but still came up short 4-3.

Dartmouth started early with a goal in the first period by Nick Johnson 7:46 into the period, followed by two goals in the first minute of the second period, which created a 3-0 lead for Big Green.

Dartmouth’s leading goal scorer, David Jones with 12, beat Pioneer goaltender Jason Smith and T.J Galliard followed suit just 13 seconds later.

The Pioneers got on the scoreboard 7:37 into the middle period with a power play goal by Hobey Baker candidate Pierre-Luc O’Brien.

Eric Giosa followed 15 seconds later, which continued the theme of offensive spurts. The sophomores from Northville, Mich. Received a cross-ice pass from freshman Nick Johnson and deposited the puck past Devine.

With 43 seconds left in the game, Bear Trapp tore another shot past Devine. Despite a great offense in the later half of the game, the Pioneers fell short of the Big Green’s one point lead.

“They were clearing rebounds as soon as we hit, the puck just didn’t stop moving,” said Smith, senior, St. Lambert, QC. “We would have had a few bounces, it would have changed everything.”

Smith also made the point of how the efficiency shown by the Pioneers in the second and third quarter could have lent some much needed scoring in the first period.

“If we would have came out in the first like we did in the second and third, it would have made a big difference.”

Despite this loss, the Pioneers are optimistic, and take the victory of Dartmouth as a learning experience.

“We know what we have to do now. It was like a wake-up call,” said Smith. The Big Green was relentless, said Chris’s next.

“We’ll be ready,” said Smith.
Avoiding oops-erstown, ‘07 class exemplifies Hall

Brian Fitzsimmons
Sports Editor

After finding out this week that Cal Ripken Jr. and Tony Gwynn passed the height requirement set forth by the measuring sticks held by the sports writers and gate keepers, the rollercoaster to Cooperstown is in full blast.

However, the upcoming era of voting will be inevitably littered with speculation that the National Baseball Hall of Fame will become a theme park filled with liars, cheaters, and even gamblers.

It is the Baseball Writers Association’s obligation to sway from this possibility and extend its arms to reclaiming what Cooperstown is all about. It is necessary to recognize they are off to a promising start.

Granted, 2007’s class of inductees involved two men who were shoe-ins worthy of entering to begin with, not just because of their lasting legacy on America’s pastime, but for the respect they attracted and still attract in an era where that honor is quite rare.

I remember as a 10-year-old boy watching Ripken at Yankee Stadium and my parents telling me how watching a man with grey hair and wearing an orange number 8 stitched to a Baltimore Orioles uniform was a big deal. I didn’t understand then, since I was too involved with spotting where the cotton candy vendor was, but I get it now.

I stared and observed this man for three hours that afternoon stuffing my face pondering why I was being told to do so. I asked why he changed his batting stance every time he went to the plate, not knowing I was witnessing the pioneer who paved the way for players like Derek Jeter, Jose Reyes and every other great shortstop today to be widely acclaimed. His streak of 2,632 consecutive games played earned him the title, “Baseball’s New Iron Man,” after losing Lou Gehrig’s previous record and I applauded as he hit a homerun in his final All-Star game in Seattle off Chan Ho Park, Series appearance against the prevailing Yankees, it didn’t occur to me how much of a gentleman he was during his long tenure lacing up the cleats.

He was a fan’s player to say the least, and his love for the game shadowed the heavy set man, who has set a bar for non-homerun hitting players such as Ichiro Suzuki and Michael Young to possibly gain a lifelong honor in the corridors of Cooperstown.

Two different players, two separate memories, but one key similarity sets these men a part from the fray we deal with everyday in the baseball world. That element is that they are walking reasons why the Baseball Hall of Fame exists, which is to celebrate the good and disregard the bad.

Mark McGwire was denied an induction this year by receiving only 23.5 percent of the votes, signifying that the committee felt his mysterious cloud of steroid allegations far outweigh his 583 career home runs. His low total of votes this year will undoubtedly make it near impossible to reach the required mark in upcoming years, since there has never been such a rise in percentages in such a short amount of years to this date. But, is this a problem?

Many concur that the Hall of Fame is a mechanism to house the game’s greatest players and there isn’t a doubt that anyone who voted, ‘no’, disagree with this. Those smart individuals feel that Cooperstown is a sainctuary for those worth honoring the past.

When McGwire stated, “I’m not here to talk about the past,” in his testimony before Congress, his credibility and miles of homeruns evaporated into the black hole where Pete Rose currently resides and will continue to rot until those measuring stick holders undergo a serious change of heart, or better yet, a detrimental lapse of judgment.

If McGwire wants no part of the questionable and regretful past, then why commemorate it?

Ripken and Gwynn had the superior statistics to acquire the keys to Cooperstown’s heavenly gates since they reminded fans what is truly good about baseball. Steroids, cover ups, and scapegoats are on their way to becoming a thing of the past courtesy of the proper precautions taken by commissioner Bud Selig, but the debris will last until the McGwire’s, Sammy Sosa’s, Gary Sheffield’s, Barry Bonds’, and Jason Giambi’s of the world are completely erased off the ballot.

These names, for the exception of McGwire’s, won’t stare down their judgment until at least until 2011. Since the most notable names on deck are Shawon Dunston, Goose Gossage, Tim Raines, David Justice, Barry Larkin and Edgar Martinez to name a few.

The aftermath’s day will come, but this year let us celebrate that we can honor those who weren’t a part of an image that tainted the game and the simple fact that steroids righteously struck out looking.

These are the men I regret my children won’t ever know or understand, and I’m scared they won’t have the privilege of experiencing what baseball is all about, like they demanded. But this year, Cooperstown has given me all the future fathers and grandfathers the hope that one day, they will.

Ripken and Gwynn deserve a standing ovation from the entire baseball fan base and should recognize their efforts as the honorary men give their acceptance speeches this July.

Only this time, I’ve been blessed with a second chance to emotionally applaud with gratitude like I should have as a young boy.

Innocent until proven guilty? Not in MLB

Pat Pickens
Sports Columnist

Baseball has had a problem with cheating in the game. But this era is no different.

Mark McGwire, who has been linked to steroids since Jose Canseco’s book, Juiced, has been an interesting case for the Hall of Fame.

Since McGwire only got 23.5% of the writers to vote, he is on the outside looking in. This has led to support for the super slugger creates a dangerous precedent for future candidates.

McGwire hit 583 homeruns, set the single season homerun record in 1998 when he hit 70. However, since his remarks on Capitol Hill, ‘not wanting to talk about the past,’ he has had a bull’s eye on his back in regards to the Hall.

With Rafael Palmeiro, who was actually suspended for steroids in 2005, and the infamous Barry Bonds, who has hard evidence connected with him in the BALCO scandal, there is a very real opportunity that several players with gaudy numbers will not enter the hall.

Meanwhile, players like Jim Rice will get in the Hall of Fame, and the cheaters will be left out.

Ty Cobb was notorious for spiking players and Gaylord Perry admitted to doctoring the baseball with illegal substances on the mound.

If writers want to play “holier than thou” and not vote players in the Hall of Fame, they need to play by the same rules for everyone.

And if these same writers are going to not vote players in for conjecture or rumors without any hard facts, then we as journalists are doing our job wrongly.

I’m the first to admit that if there are cheaters in the game, to get them out. I hate Pete Rose, and do not believe that he belongs in the Hall.

But if there isn’t enough evidence to convict someone being tried, then as Americans we cannot convict them. That’s why there is innocent until proven guilty and not the other way around.

And if we do, then we are altering and changing everything that we fought so hard for over the years.

And we wouldn’t want to let our troops down that easily.
Jarrid Frye was named the NEC Player of the Week after he scored 22 points against St. Francis (Pa.).

Pat Pickens previews this weekend's showdown versus the Devils.

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BRILLIANT BOULAY
Stephanie Boulay shined in between the pipes during the women's hockey contest this week.

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NEW VOTING ERA
Brian Fitzsimmons examines Cooperstown and what lies ahead.

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