Suspicious individual lurks at Oakwood

Public Safety keeps a watchful eye for suspicious looking people lurking around student housing.

Courtney Kohloff
Staff Reporter

Ever feel like you are being watched?
The safety of students is Sacred Heart’s priority, but an issue concerning a suspicious individual from the fall semester that surfaced again last week and over the weekend at the Oakwood Apartments, has put it in question.

A strange man, who remains unidentified, continues to invade students’ privacy at the Oakwood Apartments.

Since last semester, the male has lurked outside the apartment of a specific group of students hanging on windows and engaging in other suspect and disturbing activities.

The concerned students contacted Public Safety immediately to keep them aware of the ominous man that has been prowling around their Oakwood home.

In response, Public Safety sent an officer to routinely patrol the Oakwood grounds for a few weeks following the incident before the end of the semester.

See SAFETY on page 5.

Students listen to words of experience

‘Rent’ star speaks about life

Britany Price
Staff Reporter

Anthony Rapp, best known for his role as Mark Cohen in the musical “Rent,” came to speak about his experiences and career struggles before being cast for the musical at the Edgerton Center for Performing Arts on Monday.

“Anthony has a way of making things real. He is very down to earth and I think that’s because of all the experiences he has had to deal with in his life,” said Shaun Mitchell, junior, Cresskill, N.J. “The parts about his mother’s illness

See STUDENTS on page 2...
The ‘Heart’ Beat

SHU’s exclusive safety & crime report

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Contributed by: Public Safety

Students relate to Rapp’s struggles and ‘Rent’

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mitchell. “Many ‘Rent’ enthusiasts were also present.

“I have seen the Broadway musical over twenty times and could pretty much recite the movie,” said Rory Colford, senior, West Long Branch, N.J. “I started to read the book that he wrote and it was really good so far so I wanted to see his lecture about the musical and the book.”

At the end of the lecture, Rapp answered questions from the audience, which to some students was the lecture’s best part.

“The crowd thought of some random but good questions, it was my favorite part of the lecture,” said Christopher Yants, junior, Stony Brook N.Y.

Mitchell said he enjoyed the lecture and found that he related to Rapp on a few levels.

“We are both gay actors and that is a struggle in itself,” said Mitchell. “Nobody wants a gay actor to play a leading man role because it is not as believable so you just have to struggle through and know that happiness will eventually find you after the struggle.”

Colford said it was just interesting.
So, what’s the big deal about Big Red?

The mysterious ‘thing’ will be unveiled at ‘Pack the Pitt’

Leah Gallagher
Staff Reporter

Everyone has heard of “it.” “Big Red” at “Pack the Pitt” might be the most mysterious event and well kept secret on campus. With rumors swirling about the introduction of “Big Red” at “Pack the Pitt,” the infamous “thing” could make for a very successful event.

So who or what exactly is “Big Red”? “Basically all I can tell you is that Big Red is coming,” said Jim Daly, student body president, senior, Hazlet, N.J. Guesses about “Big Red” have ranged from a University mascot, to a slogan to a pack of gum.

Students like Kelly Daly, sophomore, Stamford, find it hard to talk to anyone on campus who has not heard about “Big Red.”

“I don’t know what it is but I’m guessing that its going to be pretty good since everyone’s so excited about it” said Kelly Daly.

Anticipation is running high about the Feb. 10 event that could go down in Sacred Heart history.

“Of course I have heard about Big Red, who hasn’t?” said Jeff Frechette, sophomore, Goffstown N.H. “[Sacred Heart] is really hyping it up to get everyone to go to ‘Pack the Pitt.’ I am going and I know it is going to draw in a huge crowd.”

With record numbers in 2006 for “Pack the Pitt,” the student government is working hard to draw an even bigger crowd this year. And “Big Red” is just the character, object or thing to do it.

“Last year at ‘Pack the Pitt’, the student government helped break every attendance record possible at SHU,” said Daly. “We destroyed both the previous records for both the men and women games.

“People are going to come to find out what ‘Big Red’ is. It will only add more [people] to the attendance. Get there early because I guarantee you will not be able to find a seat.”

Other students seem to agree with Daly’s belief that the stands at ‘Pack the Pitt’ are going to be “packed.”

“I think more people will attend Pack the Pitt because people are curious about what exactly it [Big Red] is” said Jessica Deremer, sophomore, Seabrook, N.H. “And that is why I am going.”

But “Pack the Pitt” is more then just the unveiling of “Big Red”. It’s the athletic talent of the men and women basketball teams that should draw spectators, too.

“Sacred Heart should be expecting two exciting basketball games. Both our basketball teams are playing extremely well and are in the top of their conferences,” said Daly. “The women begin the day facing Robert Morris at 2pm and the men play at 4pm against Wagner.”

Student government expects a huge turnout of students, alumni and friends. There will be giveaways of t-shirts, towels, Ipods, etc. It is really going to be a school spirited day, besides the fact that Big Red is coming it.

According to Daly, “Big Red” is going to be a “major recognition” for Sacred Heart.

The culmination of curiosity about Big Red will explode at Pack the Pitt, as SHU spirit will help sore the basketball teams to victory.

So be ready. Get “SHU”per excited. The countdown to “Big Red” has begun.

Professors ‘love’ for subject matter an issue

Some students feel classroom and teaching methods lack ‘enthusiasm’

Brittany Lacey
Staff Reporter

Core courses. Love them or hate them these classes can make or break your college career.

And so can the professors that teach them.

But have you ever experienced a professor who lacked “enthusiasm” in the classroom- a zest for teaching and learning?

Freshmen or senior, student opinions on this question might surprise you.

“I felt that my professor’s assignments were never made clear,” said Colleen Nassauer, freshmen, Mt. Sinai, N.Y. “When you asked this professor about work that needed to be completed, he would say that the syllabus explained it; but even the syllabus wasn’t that clear, and he never offered any extra assistance.”

Whether taking an intro course, upper level class or an elective, no student should be deterred from wanting to learn and participate due to a professor’s attitude.

Students like Lea Soffo, senior, New York City, dropped a class and considered changing her major due to professors attitudes towards subject matter.

“I took classes even as a junior where I had professors who would not stick to the syllabus and cover the necessary material I needed to learn to take the next level class for that subject,” said Soffo. “I came to learn, not to listen to professors tangents and to deal with their lack of preparation for class.

“I understand if you make changes to the syllabus, but you just can not throw it out the window all together. When I went to take the part two for a course the following semester, I felt like everything I was supposed to learn, despite doing all my homework and doing well in the class, I was ill prepared for. I felt lost.”

Maybe it is a professor’s personality, attitude, teaching techniques, or attitudes for subject matter, but no students should have to deal with unprepared professors and vice versa.

“I rely heavily on my professors,” said Jackie Sharp, freshman, West Islip, N.Y. “It can be frustrating when I try and get things completed, but my professor doesn’t communicate with us in a timely manner about what effectively needs to be done.

Students do well because of their professors. It makes it hard to see if not in control of your grade, even when you go beyond what is expected and do not slack off.

How do professors feel about student opinions in relation to lacking enthusiasm and clear communication skills in the classroom?

“I happen to love what I teach, and I believe that it is important for professors to communicate their love of the subject matter to students,” said Prof. Jane Carlin, English department, Stamford. “There are innovative professors and there are those who are less so, but I know that all of us understand that it is important to impart to students that this is college, and students are expected to take the initiative to understand the material, and to use time constructively.

“For some freshmen, this is a new and difficult concept. While we don’t want to become overly involved in doing for students what they should now be doing for themselves, we do want them to know that there is help for them in every area, but they need to seek assistance and not wait until the end of the semester to try to make up for dismal performance.”

Professors like Carlin know their “mission” as an educator, but students like Nassauer, Sharp and Soffo should not doubt the learning experience in a university “where personal attention leads to personal achievement.”

“How am I supposed to want to attend class when I can not communicate effectively with the professor?” said Soffo.

This is not true for all professors in all subjects.

“I am a good student and have had incredible professors here at SHU so far,” said Molly Stockwell, freshman, Hopkinton, Mass. “In one of my classes the professor was not assertive at all. My study group and I struggled in this one course severely because we never completely understood what our professor was trying to convey to us.”

Sacred Heart’s mission concerning a commitment to excellence is evident in our schools growth and recognition and this should be apparent in every classroom.

Students and professors alike should understand their duties and use the opportunity to become a better learner and educator seriously.
Does peace have a chance?


Students, pick up your copy of The New York Times at:

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Ready. Set. Build? Construction of chapel questioned

Students await and wonder about the building of chapel: SHU says it's on schedule

Ashley Stearns
Staff Reporter

Our prayers have been answered, but when will the building begin?

Dec. 5, Sacred Heart held a groundbreaking ceremony for our new chapel- the start to a new chapter at our growing university.

Since winter break, a fenced area has been put up and limbs are down though there has not been much action going on in the "work zone," also known as the Quad.

Not a shovel, contractor or backhoe in sight.

Student, Sarah DelGrosso, senior, Ramon, N.J. believes that construction on the chapel should have began sooner considering SHU's stature as the second largest Catholic University in the Northeast.

"We should have had a chapel to begin with considering Sacred Heart is a Catholic school," said DelGrosso.

It is difficult for students, like DelGrosso, to get excited about the chapel being built now that their time at Sacred Heart is coming to an end as a student.

"I just wished I could have experienced the chapel before I graduated," said DelGrosso.

Scott Giordano, junior, Hamden agrees with DelGrosso.

"I wish they would put the money into something I would be able to enjoy when I am still here," said Giordano.

With a mixture of emotions about the chapel groundbreaking with no ground actually being broken, students like DelGrosso and Giordano, are wondering if there is a "delay" with the development of SHU's new house of worship.

Different ideas about the possible hindrance of construction have some students talking.

"Who knows? Maybe the workers might think it is too cold to begin the [construction] process," said Joe Palma, sophomore, Gladstone, N.J.

Dr. Gerald Reid, professor of Anthropology, Wallingford heard that the holup of the chapel had more to do with a more practical issue: there is no roof.

"It is not considered a "delay" if there is [more] work that needs to be done first," said Reid.

But the "man on campus" with the answers about the chapel is Dr. David Coppola, Assistant Vice President for Administration, Wilton.

"There is no delay whatsoever and everything is running according to plan," said Coppola. "I hope to see the chapel complete by June 2008."

Coppola explains that there are many things that need to take place first before construction is safely underway.

Electrical, water retention and sewage issues are all aspects that need to be addressed, first.

Peta Construction managers, who were hired by Sacred Heart to construct the chapel, cannot go to work until other matters are taken care of, such as who to hire for stone and steel construction and artwork.

"It will take two to four months before any visible structure will take place," said Coppola. "After the building begins, ordering furniture to seat 500 people will come next."

"Cleaning up is a major task and waiting up to six weeks for the organ to be installed is all part of the process. The process is an exciting thing."

Big plans are in the future for SHU.

The chapel, which is being designed by world-class architectural firm, Sasaki, will be one of the first projects. Soon to follow will be development on the library and humanities building.

So hold on and keep the safe and speedy construction of the chapel in your prayers.

Safety is a top priority

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We have increased patrols of the Oakwood Apartments and we patrol all student housing areas," said Jack Fernandez, Director of Public Safety.

Until recently the stranger had never returned. But after the students came back from winter break, the suspicious man returned and the continuous knocking on the windows and banging on the doors began again.

Doc knocks first started in the living room," said one of the residents of the apartment whose identity has been concealed for safety reasons. "Whether I am by myself or with my roommate I am terrified. It really was creepy and I do not feel safe."

Another Oakwood resident, who also remains anonymous, told Public Safety that they witnessed a man that did not look like a student or a resident loitering around the apartments near the same time the other students reported the reoccurring incident.

Despite the scary incident, many students feel that Oakwood is a safe place to live.

"I thought Public Safety always maintained a presence when I was living there," said Amanda DeMatties, junior, Hamden. "I did almost get my car broken into there so I do think they should have a spot where they sit there all night."

Kelly Brooks, junior, Babylon, N.Y., who lives at the Taft Apartments agrees with DeMatties.

"The area in Bridgeport which I live in definitely is not ideal for a college student to live," said Brooks. "But Public Safety is out there every night watching students go in and out of the building. I've never had a problem here."

One of the students affected by the incident did not tell Public Safety right away about it to avoid calling attention to their apartment and causing unnecessary problems. But Public Safety was called when the banging began to get more intense.

On Sunday, Jan. 28, the circumstances seemed to get worse when one apartment residents were greeted by a teddy bear on the apartment's doorstep.

"Our doorstep was an old, disgusting, stained and tattered looking teddy bear," said one of the residents. "It freaked me out."

According to Oakwood's building manager, the bear was left by an older resident who thought that the two students could identify the bear.

Despite the clarification about the bear, the students contacted Public Safety for the second time this year and reported the problem.

Since the issue with the suspicious male have escalated with the continuous banging, Public Safety contacted the Bridgeport Police Department.

An investigation is now being conducted with the Bridgeport Police Department.

"All officers have been apprised of the incident and are working diligently to find the person in question," said Fernandez. "We urge the residents to contact Public Safety immediately should they witness any suspicious activity. Time is of the essence."

With the police involved, Oakwood residents said they hope the case of the bizarre male will cease and feel comforted that Public Safety and the police are on their side always watching.

U.I. rate increase is costly

Susan Patton
Staff Reporter

With the recent approval for the United Illuminating Company (U.I.) to raise energy rates, opening utility bills may come as a shock for both the university's financial department and students.

U.I. was approved to raise its rates as much as 50 percent by July 2007 compared to July 2006. These rates will not only impact students living off-campus, but will also affect tuition and room and board fees for 2007 and 2008.

"We always try to keep tuition as low as we can but the United Illuminating Company increase will be considered," said President Gary Chapman.

Tuition increases for Sacred Heart University have been, "historically average or below average compared to other schools of our type," said Savino.

Off-campus students will also see a spike in their monthly utility costs.

"Living off-campus for the first time this year, I have learned a lot more about bills and how much a small increase, let alone a large one like United Illuminating Company's, can effect a budget," said Alexis Sorrentino, junior, New Haven.

Alana Harrel, junior, city, N.Y., said that the United Illuminating Company is becoming "Gucci priced electricity."

Parents are also concerned with how the energy price increase will affect everyone.

"I certainly don't want to see tuition increase due to United Illuminating Company rate hike, however, I do not see that Sacred Heart University will have many options with this sizeable price jump," said Mary Patton, parent of a Sacred Heart University student.

Patton said she hopes that the school begins an all-college energy campaign to educate students and staff on methods of cutting energy consumption.

Sacred Heart is not the only one facing these problems. Colleges across the United States are facing exorbitant increases in utility expenses with a number of universities being forced to add surcharges to tuition in order to cover energy costs.

According to both, the Commonwealth Institute's Higher Education Price Index and the College Board, energy and utility costs have nearly doubled within the past five years.

The average college student stashes an inordinate number of electrical appliances in their dorm rooms. High definition televisions (HDTV), stereo, cell phones, refrigerators, microwaves, hair dryers, printers and computers are standard equipment for most students.

In order to keep tuition increases at a minimum, all students, parents, and staff have a responsibility to put pressure on the state to encourage power companies to investigate new sources of energy.

"We're doing everything we can to be efficient as an institution," said Savino.

No city after a person with a title is needed (dean or professor). It's okay to use a parent, but name the student.

Remember the states.

Try not to repeat the school's name so many times since it's a campus newspaper.

Attribute ALL information. No opinions. Get quotes then that reflect similar ideas but do not put your own idea in there.
On January 23, President George W. Bush delivered his most recent State of the Union address. Most students were unaware of the President’s upcoming plans until they tuned in.

"Politics are becoming more polarized with people siding with one party or another without taking the time to hear what the other party has to say. I was pleased to see that in his opening remarks, President Bush acknowledged this fact and stated that no matter what our beliefs are the new congress should strive to do what is right for the American public," said Lisa Cavalli, junior, West Babylon, N.Y.

The subject material covered held a significant amount of importance to everyone in the country. President Bush addressed the public with hope to gain a consensus of supporters.

"The President spoke specifically about his plans for the economy and how he is devoted to decreasing the budget without raising taxes," said Cavalli.

Another topic the President spoke about with determination was the issue of American school systems and the "No Child Left Behind Act."

"President Bush says it’s working well and they should reinstate the act, and I haven’t seen any actual study results. However, from what I’ve heard in my education classes it’s not working like they’d hoped because schools are teaching to the test instead of teaching kids to learn. I like the idea of giving every kid a chance to succeed, but I don’t know if this is the way to do it."

President Bush delivers his State of the Union address on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2007.

said Alex Composto, senior, Danbury. A deep concern that grips at the hearts of every American is the future for the war on terrorism. Everyone wants to see justice prevailed over our predators yet, people also want to see our troops coming home and returning from this war.

"I think the President did what was necessary. We went to war and had to because the former President, Clinton, didn’t do a thing. It was about time someone did something," said Stephanie Ciccone, sophomore, Old Bridge, N.J.

Five years later our country is still fighting for peace with courageous soldiers willing to protect our nation.

"Enough is enough it’s been five years already and nothing has been accomplished except for people getting killed, it’s time to bring our troops home," said Ciccone.

"I think what we are doing in Iraq is the right thing, but we are doing it for the wrong reason. It seems like Bush isn’t as confident in what he was doing even though he still said he wants to up the troops in Iraq," said Patrick Bonner, sophomore, Bloomfield.

In an attempt to clarify the future plans for succession, President Bush has attracted a mixed audience who is eager to understand what the future holds.

"I believe that our enemies must be removed, however, there are too many of them. I think that President Bush should concentrate more on heightening security in the states and feeding the poor and homeless people instead of worrying about other countries," said Ciccone.

"Big Red is the Gum! But if it has to do with the school, then it’s probably a new mascot."

"Big Red is probably the new mascot."

"I think Big Red is going to be a spirit day."

"I think Big Red has something to do with school spirit."
Lack of Pride

Katie Carroll
Staff Reporter

Have you ever had the experience of waiting in line for tickets for your college team? Or sleeping in the halls in hopes to get those season tickets that only college kids have the chance of attaining at their home field? The Sacred Heart University student like Jeff LeBlanc, a junior, Centermoriches, N.Y., Matt Giordano, a senior from Yorktown Heights, N.Y. and Jessica Hill, a junior from East Rockaway, N.Y. I think this experience seems like it will never happen. Students as well as peers are awaiting a change in the lack of enthusiasm for supporting the SHU's athletic teams.

Jeff LeBlanc a former Pioneer volleyball player is a regular sports supporter for the SHU. He enjoys the SHU band, cheerleaders, as well as the dance team who performs for the crowds at the athletic events.

"I go to most men's and women's volleyball games, whenever my schedule allows. It also try to go to the men's and women's basketball games. However, I think there is a lack of knowledge on how exciting SHU's sports actually are. In the case of volleyball it is actually really exciting to watch, but no one gives it a chance," said Jeff LeBlanc, Junior, Centermoriches, N.Y.

With the University's entertainment and exciting atmosphere it is surprising that there is such a lack of spirit.

There is little student unity towards the University's sports programs. It's mostly just an opportunity to hang out with friends and talk about what's up for the weekend. I'm sure everyone here at SHU want to attend a game that can measure up to a Big Ten school atmosphere.

What's new with SHU?

Rachel Maresca
Staff Reporter

It's a New Year, and a new semester with new and exciting school events ahead of us.

Year after year, Sacred Heart University strives to be adding more things to make our school bigger, better, and more appealing to future students. The question is how are these new things affecting current students?

One thing that seems to be an issue at SHU are the athletics. College's around the world take a lot of pride in their sports, which is something that seems to be lacking at SHU, however, the school seems to want to change that.

"Especially the way SHU has been lately, athletically, with the success of men's ice hockey, women's basketball, and men's baseball the University should be putting money towards these athletic programs. We have a chance to be a real power house and we don't seem to be taking it," said Ian Garrison, junior, Carmel, N.Y.

"The money spent here on things like the new chapel should have been spent on our athletic programs, our cafeteria since students seem to be disappointed in both," said Brendan Carlucci, junior, Garrison, N.Y.

"Our school is trying their best to push for more "Pioneer pride." A few weeks ago we all received emails inviting the student body to try out for Pioneer mascot. Will having a person who dresses up in a Pioneer costume really draw more attention to the athletic events on campus?

The answer remains to be seen.

Another "new" addition to Sacred Heart is having two spring concerts as opposed to the one. During my three years at SHU I have seen Dashboard confessions, Black Eyed Peas, the Pussycat Dolls, and now the Goo Goo Dolls, Augustana, and Hinder.

"Yes, all six of these bands are popular, but is it really what the students want to see? It's understandable that the school can't get a band that's going to please every student. However, it seems like their trying hard to make our spring concerts better when it appears to leave students somewhat disappointed.

"I think they should try to bring in more successful bands than what we've had in the past. They should take a vote in the beginning of each semester and see who the majority of the students would want to see perform. They're trying to make our spring better with these bands, but it doesn't seem to be working, at least not yet," said Ryan Hayo, junior, Paramus, N.J.

This year's band choices in particular are that they are all the same genre of music. The majority of both bands lyrics are slow in tempo. It's not something the students could get into while watching the concerts.

Also, I don't know about any one else, but I only know the Goo Goo Dolls old stuff as far as Hinder goes, the "Lips of an Angel" single is the only song that is well known, probably just because of its played on the radio.

The upside to the "new" things happening here at SHU is that this University is definitely on an upswing. We should all be hopeful that things really are going to get better as the years go on.

The Spectrum: Kate Brindisi

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He Said/ She Said

Feelings on the Spring Concert

Rob Roy
He said

This year, the Spring Concert at Sacred Heart University will host two big groups in music: Hinder and the Goo Goo Dolls. With hits like "Lips of An Angel" and "Stay with You," respectively, these two bands contribute immensely to American music. So it is obviously very exciting that these two groups will be joining us at SHU for the spring concert this year. I think that because these two bands and their music are enjoyed by different types of listeners, the audience at the spring concert this year should be fairly large and very diverse in music taste, providing all those who attend an awesome and very fun occasion to get together with friends and listen to both the bands perform.

Personally, I like both of the groups. I think that the two will be very well received with SHU students and everyone who attends will have a great time.

This is a win-win situation for SHU students as they will be able to see two popular bands and on the conveniences of spending on our own campus.

I want throw a shout out to the Students Events Team. SET along with Student Life has done a great job over the past years creating the opportunity for many famous groups / individuals to come to our campus. This spring concert should be a huge hit much like the Black Eyed Peas last year.

Dana Dislato
She said

The Spring Concert. Every year most students look forward to it, ready to pack the Pitt and bring all of their friends from home. Tickets are easily accessible, and they're supposed to be free, though at this school, I would beg to differ.

Days after we got back from winter break, Mr. Wueskamp revealed to the student body the bands that would grace us this year. After an overwhelmingly successful concert last year with no other than the duet, Miss Stacey Ferguson, and the rest of the band that no one gives a crap about, Sacred Heart had to top it. And to do so, they bring you, not one, but three concerts. Dream team Johnny Rizz and the rest of the Goo Goo Dolls one night, and for the other, the most anticipated band to tour since NICKLEBACK, Hinder.

Where do they come up with this? I think tickets would sell better if Barry Manilow were playing. Even I would spend an evening in the Pitt if it meant I would hear "Copacabana" live.

God forbid we bring a band to this school that actually includes a French horn, or a harp. I mean the Goo Goo Dolls are good live. I suggest that if you already aren't going to them, you should. Hinder on the other hand, I have no idea. I guess if you like Creed, Daughtry, The Great Divide, and any other band supported musical act, then you should go.
Armani broadcasts haute couture in France

Students crash O.A.R. concert

Cristin Colucci
Staff Reporter

Some students are excited that on Jan. 24 Giorgio Armani broadcast his haute couture collection from France on the Internet, for the first time.

The video of the haute couture collection can be seen on www.msn.com where it runs for 45 minutes, including an exclusive interview with Armani. Interviews with Katie Holmes and Cat Blanchett, who were at the show in Paris, are also included.

An haute couture collection is a line of fashion that is specially made for the measurements of the person who will wear it.

“I think it’s great that the Armani fashion show was broadcast on the Internet. I love fashion and am looking forward to hopefully more designers broadcasting their shows as well,” said Caroline Worth, sophomore, North Arlington, N.J.

Now that Armani has started an Internet trend by broadcasting his shows for the public to see students wonder if other designers will begin to do the same.

The online broadcast provides greater advertising for Armani because he is able to share his products with more than just those who attend his shows. “It was only a matter of time that it reached the Internet, everything else seems to be online so this is just another addition,” said Jessica Hoffman, sophomore, Toms River, N.J.

The use of the Internet allows those who are interested in fashion to have the opportunity to watch fashion shows that are normally closed off to only a number of well-off patrons in Europe.

“I have always been interested in fashion shows and now that Armani broadcast his online I think other designers should do the same,” said Kerri Zuercher, sophomore, Smithfield, R.I.

The luxury of watching an haute couture collection can now be brought right to the home, allowing greater publicity for the designer and a greater chance to watch the collection for the fans of fashion.

“I think that it’s really great how Armani did an Internet broadcast of his couture collection, not everyone has the opportunity to go to Paris to see a fashion show and now this gives people that chance,” Stephanie D’Ambra, sophomore, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Some students interviewed agree that the next step in fashion taken on by Armani is the right way to go.

The Internet has opened the door for fashion lovers to have easy access to watching an haute couture collection and possibly other fashion shows in the future.

O.A.R. performs on stage at Fairfield University's Alumni Hall.

Kathleen Schultz
Staff Reporter

It was 9 p.m. when the crowd was getting rowdy with impatience and pushing each other towards the front of the stage in wait for the headliner band to begin. Then the whole room erupted as the lights came up and O.A.R. opened jamming out with the song "Black Rock".

"I was really looking forward to this concert since I purchased my ticket in December. I couldn’t wait for O.A.R. to join out in a session and when they did it was above and beyond amazing," said Jess Honan, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Sacred Heart University students, Fairfield University students and other fans enjoyed a night of Gomez, an English indie rock band from Southport, England and the sounds of O.A.R. a jam band from Maryland. Gomez was the opening band that got the crowd going, while O.A.R. took the night away with hit after hit.

The concert was held at Fairfield University’s Alumni Hall on Thursday, Jan. 25. This gymnasium setting gave each band great acoustics as they played.

O.A.R.’s college campus performance at Fairfield was part of their winter tour that is promoting their newest album "Stories of a Stranger". This album generates O.A.R.’s first big radio hit, "Love and Memories".


As they walked off stage, the crowd shouted O. A. R. repeatedly in request of an encore. The band came back and played "The Big Easy", continued with their biggest radio hit "Love and Memories" and finished with their all time biggest favorite "That Was A Crazy Game Of Poker". During the encore the crowd sang every word to their biggest hit.

Stephen Klingsg, a Fairfield alumni, was a guest performer who played one of his own songs as an added bonus to the show. Singer and lead guitarist, Marc Roberge of O.A.R. shared the stage with him singing along.

"O.A.R. is one of my all time favorite bands and I have seen them over 10 times,” said Jim Daly, senior, Hazlet, N.J. “It was amazing to be at one of their first concerts on this winter tour promoting their latest album, I'm so pumped now for our spring concert because ours will be even bigger and better."

The crowd ended up getting a little out of control.

"This concert had a lot of pushing and out of control fans, hopefully our spring concert will be more organized with keeping the fans from being too crazy,” said Tatiana Garcia, junior, Washington Heights, N.Y.

Sacred Heart University and Fairfield University have a partnership where they both sell 100 tickets to each other for their students at student prices for their spring concerts.

"This year our 100 tickets were sold out in a day and were only offered to one ticket per student because of the popularity of the concert," said Tom Wurstkamp, Student Activities Administrator.

Now that O.A.R. had their chance to rock out at Fairfield University, students are left to look forward to their own spring concert which is right around the corner.
The lights are on for “Lights Out”

Shelley Thomas
Staff Reporter

Matt Libassi introduces Lights Out with Mike Haronis, a campus-wide television show being put into production this year.

Libassi started the idea of a TV show last semester, inspired by his internship over the summer for Late Night with Conan O’Brien. “I really saw how everything is put together, from planning interviews, organizing shoots, meetings, scripts, and I really wanted to bring something like that to Sacred Heart,” said Matt Libassi, junior, Shoreham, N.Y.

Libassi believes that we have a very talented population of students and he would like to encourage them to show off their skills, while having a good time. As of right now there are 20 student staff members, including the host and head writer, Mike Haronis.

“Mike and I think that this show is great because never before on this campus has there been something this involved in regards to the Media Studies department,” said Mike Haronis, junior, Worcester, Mass. “Not only has it been fun, but there has been actual learning involved which I guess is a plus.”

Another staff member is Bridget Steckis who has the role of the musical sidekick. “We have a crew of really awesome people involved with the show, the producer, camera men, writers, costume and prop people,” said Bridget Steckis, junior, Wading River, N.Y. “And it’s really easy for anyone who wants to get involved, we could use as much help as we can get.”

Libassi hopes to utilize the TV station on campus and have the shows aired on a regular basis on Ch.3 within the University. “I think it could also be really beneficial for the rest of the student body because it will give them all something that they can watch and be entertained while at the same time learning about what’s going on on campus, whether it be upcoming plays, new things on campus, parties, job opportunities, etc.”

Other ideas for the show include musical and comedic performances. Students may sing a song or create a humorous skit. “We are still looking for help, including cameramen, writers, as well as performers and talent,” said Libassi.

Studio times may be scheduled to tape performances for the first and second shows (Feb. 1 and Feb. 22) on Thursday from 12:15-3:15 p.m., in the Media Studies Studio.

If anyone is interested in participating in Lights Out or has any questions, e-mail Matt at libassin@sacredheart.edu or check out www.myspace.com/lightout.

Sacred Heart Pioneers

David Beckham

Lisa Brown
Staff Reporter

Soccer player David Beckham, known as “Becks” published earlier this month that he and wife, former Spice Girl Victoria, would be moving to Los Angeles.

“David Beckham getting signed from London is a great thing for the U.S., because in some ways it will help us unite with London, even if it means only in soccer, Beckham is a setup man, great with crosses and corners,” said Alexandra Mattison, freshman, West Babylon, N.Y.

Beckham will join the Los Angeles Galaxy. He has signed a five-year contract for $250 million. Leaving the real Madrid club where he had world-wide popularity but faced disappointment on the field on June 30, when his contract concluded.

“I’m really excited that he’ll be playing here, the talk about him is very positive, it isn’t just soccer,” said Patrick Martin, junior, Mahopac, N.Y.

The Los Angeles season begins in Houston on April 8, and Beckham is already having a financial impact on his new team. It has sold thousands of season tickets since the signing was announced.

“He’s going to help the team out a lot, he’s a great player,” said Kalynd Sandman, sophomore, Enfield.

His career is expanding, not just on the soccer field.

The Beckhams are also planning a $7 million deal launching their best-selling scents in the U.S. His profitability was shown by the hit movie "Bend it like Beckham," even though his skills have weakened with age.

The Beckhams products are definitely going to do well in the United States, everybody loves them," said Alana Hassell, junior, Manhasset, N.Y.

Wax Sculptures of the Beckhams were imported from London and will be exhibited in Madame Tussauds wax museum for two weeks. The sculptures will be available to view until the couple moves to the states. The couple will be posed at the Times Square museum with Victoria’s head on his chest and his arm wrapped around her.

“I would definitely buy a ticket just to see him, I personally can’t wait to watch him play,” said Melissa Slavin, sophomore, Amityville, N.Y. “I think he’ll bring more attention to soccer.”

“I am proud to have played for two of the biggest clubs in football and I look forward to the new challenge of growing the world’s most popular game in a country that is as passionate about its sport as my own,” said David Beckham, Associated Press.

“Beckham is a good player, but I don’t know if he can deliver the stats for the money he is getting, just like any other professional player that comes to the big city,” said, Nicholas Lambusta, senior, Yorktown, N.Y.

Beckham and his family have gained major attention in America and his recent signing with the Los Angeles team has brought even more focus on him and his career.

CD Review: Smashing the Ceiling

Christopher Forsyth
Staff Reporter

Smashing the Ceiling the third album by multi-faceted music star Magdalcn Hsu-Li puts the listener into a passionate world of spirituality, love, and conviction.

Magdalcn Hsu-Li is a music artist of Asian American descent and bisexual orientation, something not very common within the industry. Hsu-Li has been a struggling music artist and songwriter for some time, but has found a passion within the arts as well.

She is also a prolific speaking figure. Her lectures touch base with many feminist, social, and cultural issues. On January 24, Magdalcn Hsu-Li performed at 12:00 p.m. at the Edgerton Theater, and held a lecture immediately afterwards called “Redefinition of Identity”.

The lecture was a one-hour interactive “human interest” lecture exploring the search for “cultural identity” through her own personal history.

Hsu-Li is best known for her previous albums Fire and Evolution. Her third installment highlights her deep appreciation of life and the feelings of love as a part of someone else’s life.

“Her track, “Where would I be,” is an ode to her lover for supporting her when she needed them the most. The song has a very pacific island acoustic sound.”

“This is such a beautiful song, I love the way she talks about her confusion and uneasiness, but then just says I wouldn’t have made it without my lover,” said Kelly Crowley, sophomore, Middle Island, N.Y.

“All Those Words,” a track with well-placed piano notes and drumbeats set the tone to a slow paced contemplative song. The song touches on fights you’ve had with loved ones and asks the question, “did you really mean what you said to me earlier?”

“This song is very relaxing and makes you think,” said Robert Fogerite, sophomore, Albany, N.Y.

Her last track “Take Me There” is Hsu-Li’s ode to music. She tells the listener that music is her eternal escape; she wants to be part of everything it is. She sings “and when my time comes I may be safely laid there,” a testament to her love and devotion to music, and ultimately hoping that she can be one with it upon her death.

Magdalcn Hsu-Li’s third album has an array of life situations touched upon within each track. Whether it is something upbeat and positive or something very depressing and negative, listeners are sure to get a mix of both.
Taylor Higgins
Staff Reporter

Packing for Spring Break includes tanning oil, bathing suits and this year, a passport.

Beginning Jan. 3, everyone, including U.S. citizens, traveling by air between the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda are required to present a valid passport.

The Mail and Duplicating center is holding a "Passport Day" for those students who do not yet have a passport.

On Feb. 7 the U.S. Postal Service will be on campus in the Information Technology Conference room between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to take photos, process applications, and other documents needed.

The Mail and Duplicating center will supply students with the proper application forms, or the forms can be downloaded at: http://foia.state.gov/FORMS/Passport/dp0011.pdf

"I recently heard about the Passport Day at SHU and had to go home and get my birth certificate. Normally I wouldn't need a passport to go to Acapulco but this year I do so I decided to get it done at SHU," said Simona Altavilla, junior, Monroe.

On Passport Day students will need to bring with them a birth certificate with a raised seal from the city and state they were born, drivers license, check for $67 payable to the U.S. Department of State and they also will need a check for $30 payable to U.S.T.S.

"Students will also need two photos of themselves which they can have done on their own at a local CVS or Walgreens, or we can take the picture for them and that will cost another $15. If we take the picture for you, the check to U.S.T.S would be for $45," said Lisa Cioffi, employee of the U.S. Postal Office, Bridgeport, which will be holding the event.

"The normal processing time is four to six weeks after they apply. If a student needs their passport to be done sooner, they can pay a $60 expedite fee and can receive it in two weeks following the date that they apply," said Cioffi.

There are a few instances where the passport requirement does not apply including U.S. citizens traveling to or returning directly from anywhere in the U.S.

A person is not required to have a passport if they are traveling within U.S. and its territories.

Because of the recent change of laws, and the upcoming arrival of spring break, students are lining up to get their passport this year.

"I think it's a great idea that SHU is having a "Passport Day," I personally don't need one, but I'm going to the Bahamas for spring break with a few of my friends, and they are all going to need to get one because of the new law," said Danielle Gandino, junior, Montgomery, N.J.

"I am extremely happy that SHU is doing a "Passport Day," said Gandino.

I didn't realize they changed the laws until after I got back from Christmas break, and by then I thought it was too late for me to get a passport to go Cancun for Spring Break.

I already have my forms filled out and will definitely be taking advantage this," said Maegan Warner, junior, Alford, Mass.

The university is encouraging students to pre-register for this event by contacting Art Gerekvens via email at: Gerekvens@sacredheart.edu.

Passport Day is an opportunity for students who do not have a passport, or are unaware of the law to get one before leaving for Spring Break.

What happens when you post your secret?

Joe Di Guglielmo
Staff Reporter

Do you have the fear of exposing your personal inner feelings to the world? Now, PostSecret.com allows people to share with anyone who visits the site what your deepest and most personal inner feelings - anonymously.

Many have not yet heard about this website around Sacred Heart, perhaps because it is still in its infancy stage:

However, many people were familiar with the music video by the popular rock band The All-American Rejects, where in their video for their song "Dirty Little Secret," they borrow post cards and material from PostSecret.com to coincide with the lyrical content of the song.

"I've heard of the website and I think what they are doing is pretty interesting. What is being shared is some of the most realist and raw portrayals of the way human beings feel about things," said, FrankkeeOlivia, junior, Stratford.

The website was started by Frank Warren of Maryland in November 2004. Warren started by personally printing out 3000 post cards containing secrets and began handing them to strangers and leaving them in public places.

Each post card also told the reader "share a secret."

Soon, the phenomenon started catching on and secrets started spreading like wildfire. The official method of sharing a secret is to send in a 4-by-6-inch post card containing the message and any artwork by postal mail.

Eventually, Warren's mailbox could no longer handle the mail. The flood of letters arriving. People from around the globe were sending in things that they have previously kept to themselves for most of their lives, things they were afraid to share with anyone else.

"I've heard of the website by word-of-mouth and checked it out a few times. I like it a lot. It's entertaining to read and see what people are really thinking," said Colleen Cashman, junior, Bridgeport.

"It could also be used in a beneficial way for those who might be feeling lonely or desperate to hear something from other people out there that share a similar thought or emotion," said Cashman.

Now, having grown to a world-wide service, the website posts about twenty secrets from the incoming mail.

They are hand-picked by the strength in which the secret may be able to help others on a mass-scale.

"Personally, I think the website is a good idea. It's an outlet for people who want to express themselves anonymously, leaving out the feelings of consequence. Being able to express what you are feeling to a large audience is a good thing in my opinion," said Tim Geary, senior, Hopewell Junction, New York.

"You never know when expressing the way you feel about something can help others who are experiencing the same thoughts as you. It may help them identify with something in their own lives," said Geary.

The website, and the book which is also available, help to support a US call line called the 'National Hopeline Network', a 24-hour hotline for those thinking about suicide or who know people who are.

The site advertises links to their website, and also appeals for donations regularly.

Just a few months ago, the PostSecret website stopped the Hopeline from having to be shut down due to lack of finance and a risk of bankruptcy.
Pioneer mascot brings cheer to SHU

Alyssa Larsen
Staff Reporter

Many students showed their school spirit last Saturday in hopes of becoming the new Sacred Heart Mascot. Auditions were held to find the most enthusiastic, school spirited individual to represent Sacred Heart.

A mascot is any person, animal or object thought to bring luck. Colleges are often referred to by their mascots. Sacred Heart has a New Scarlet Knight as well as have a representing mascot.

"Student interviews went well," said Student Body President Jim Daly. "People are pumped for this. Training begins next week. The students that were selected will be learning basically 'how to be a mascot'," said Daly.

A student was selected to represent Sacred Heart. No names are being given out in hopes of keep- ing the new school mascot a secret.

Having the school mascot a mystery is part of the fun, always ponders who is in that funny costume jumping and dancing around, pumping the crowd with never ending energy.

The mascot will be making various appearances at Sacred Heart's sporting events. You can expect to see the mascot at Hockey, Baseball, Volleyball, and Basketball games throughout the semester, "you name it he'll be there."

The job of the mascot, other than the obvious, is to pump up the crowd, getting people into and enthusiastic for the games, and being a major icon for the University.

It will be the responsibility of the mascot to visit children in local hospitals, appearing at store openings in our area, as well as eventually being apart of the mascot games on ESPN.

"Yes, I think it's a good idea and it will definitely bring more spirit to SHU... most other schools have a mascot and benefits from it in different ways. I think we'd just come together even more as a community with it," said Monika Anwester, sophomore, Londonerry, N.H.

"I think that by having a mascot it will enhance the crowd as well as make the already present crowd more dominant," said Matthew Telvi, sophomore Class President.

"School spirit, I believe, helps with home field advantage and driving our players to do their best. I think by adding this mascot it will help make our school as be the higher level of Division I athletics and be compared to the big name schools that are out there," said Telvi.

Students were given the opportunity to become the new masc- cot.

The Sacred Heart mascot idea was thought of by the Student Body President Jim Daly.

"Ever since I was a freshman this was something I have been working on to bring to this University. This will soon help expand our school across the country. People are going to be able to see this mascot and recognize him automatically that he is SHU's mascot. It is a very exciting time for the school," said Daly.

A mascot must poss- ess certain qualities such as being able to walk into a room and get the ecstatic.

Energy and being enthusiastic about Sacred Heart University is mandatory requirements for being the new SHU masc- cot.

"A mascot is supposed to be larger than life," with a want to be there.

On Saturday February 10, 2007, "BIG RED IS COMING and it is going to BE AMAZING," said Daly. This is when the new mascot will be unveiled.

No one knows what the Sacred Heart mascot will look like or what exactly big red is.

If you want to find out for yourself, attend pick the Pitt, Saturday January, 10, 2007.

Big red is coming.

Jennifer Spinelli
Staff Reporter

F.O.R.C.E spring semester auditions spark new interest

SHU F.O.R.C.E., named Team of the Year in 2003-2004, held auditions to find its newest members on Sunday.

"There were 19 people who auditioned, and we took six to join our team," said Katrina Torres, President SHU F.O.R.C.E, East Hartford.

"I've always been found of athletics. Combine art and coordination with strength and stamina and you get dance. I used to take tap, ballet and jazz when I was young. SHU F.O.R.C.E would have been a great way to continue on in the field," said Alyssa Ferdinando, junior, Westchester NY.

"It is always a dif- ficult time for me and the Eboard to choose who will be on the team, since every per- son who auditioned for the team has great talent," said Torres.

"It's a difficult process choosing who makes the team and who doesn't. Judging your peers is no easy task," said Lisa Cavalli, Advertising Chair, SHU F.O.R.C.E, West Babylon, N.Y.

The team works hard on many differ- ent dance styles to put on a show at the end of each semester.

"There is a limited number [of people] we can take, since we are growing every year; we are a team and we have been gaining the interest of students at SHU. It is great to see the people who love dance and all the talent that is at SHU," said Torres.

"I didn't try out because I knew that my schedule would not allow for it. I had to focus on my current obligations and my classes. SHU F.O.R.C.E is an excellent team of dancers and having a member on their team that could not always be there for them would have been an insult. I am happy just to see them perform," said Ferdinando.

"The team in general meets three times a week for six hours total. The Eboard tackled on additional 3 to 4 hours a week in the dance room, not counting the work we do outside of the dance room to keep the organization functioning," said Cavalli.

"I love going to the Kick-Off and the final performance that they put on at the end of the year. Each year we get to see something new and exciting. For the past two years we have seen the gymnastics team perform on stage with the F.O.R.C.E ensemble. It's truly a sight to see," said Ferdinando.

"We will preparing for the two recitals that are our big event for this semester. They will be held on April 21st at 7pm and April 24th at 10:10pm," said Torres.

This looks like the beginnings of another great semester for the F.O.R.C.E.
Pat Pickens holds professional journalistic integrity, however couldn't help but succumb to news Saturday's loss in New Britain.

PAGE 12

Kerri Burke returned to the court in an NEC win before a loss to LIU, and Amanda Pape received yet another honor.

PAGE 13

Men's ice hockey swept Canisius, but the stars of the weekend were quite surprising, writes Gabrielle Castanella and Pat Pickens.

PAGE 14

The Pioneers have held to 17 first half points, combined to score the next 28 CCSU points. And as long and ardent of a process as it seemed to make the game a laugher, was as quickly as the Blue Devils turned it into a nail biter.

Let it sink in. 55-34, 16:46 in regulation. 63-41, 9:53 in regulation. A 27-8 Central run over not even seven minutes, whipped the crowd from comatose to bedlam. Every second half possession the Pioneers seemed tested. It was as though everyone was guessing what rabbit SHU would pull from its hat to keep the Devils at bay.

"I would be lying to you if I said it didn't make a difference," senior Jarrod Frye, Queens, N.Y said of the environment. "We had the crowd quiet, and they stole the momentum. We fell into a trap."

But when that littlesuper froshI mentioned earlier, Hardy, nailed a three-pointer to make the game 71-63 with 6:31 to go, it appeared that maybe the boys from SHU had finally sealed the final dagger.

But the penky Blue Devils answered the call again, creeping to within three, when it appeared the game may shift for good, when Nwadike fouled out at the 3:18 mark of the second, on what appeared to be a questionable call at best.

Despite having one of its head's chopped off, the two-headed monster of Mojica and Blackwood would respond even stronger.

The duo would combine to score 26 of the Blue Devils final 29 points. Blackwood himself had 12, of his career-high 32, in overtime.

"Blackwood shot the lights out," Frye said. "He carried them to victory."

Carried. It's a wonder he isn't being treated for a hernia for lugging the Blue Devils as far along as he did.

In the final minutes of regulation, the team that had been so stoic and calm, even through the collapse, seemed to wither. Messed free throws, forced shots, and lack of rebonding were all prevalent. It is a shame really, because Frye was masterful in the second half, scoring 16 of his team-high 19 points.

"It is very disap-pointing," Frye said. "They just wanted it more."

The first half was such a high for the Pioneers. They opened the game on a 14-2 run, Bruce Brooks had 14 points and six rebounds and for once it seemed the Pioneers had exorcised the demons of Detrick Gym.

But again it wasn't enough.

"We threw the game away," coach Dave Bike said after the loss. "We let them get too close, and they made shots when they had to."

Sure, there were controversies in the game, like Mojica not having to come out in overtime with blood on his shorts, or the fact that the Blue Devils were in the bonus situation with 8:49 to go, when the Pioneers had been fouled just once over the same stretch.

But it should never come to that. When a team is up 19, there are no excuses for what happens with officiating, and especially no excuse for anything that happens in overtime.

And despite the "instant classic" nature of this game from CCSU’s perspective, both teams still have the rest of a season, and potentially postseason to play.

"We aren't afraid of this snowballing," Frye said. "We have nine games to play. We are a good team and just need to focus the rest of the way."

That may be true, but it's come playoff time, it is going to be difficult to forget blowing a 19 point lead on your nemesis' home floor. And that is what is ultimately going to haunt the Pioneers.

The ramifications of blowing this game to any team could be costly. But the fact that it was the hated Blue Devils, an in-state rival, a team that has thoroughly owned the Pioneers, and has treated SHU like the little brother rather than an equal, are worse.

More importantly it puts the Pioneers two games behind CCSU with just nine league games to play, when a win would mean a tie, and the potential for a tiebreaker on February 12, when the Devils come down state to play at the Pott Center.

Maybe in the twelve days between now and then, the Pioneers will find that little extra to get over the hump and beat the Devils.

And maybe in the same span, I'll learn to shut my mouth until the clock strikes 0:00.

You can reach Pat Pickens at pickens@SacredHeart.edu.

For more coverage on this game, go to www.insidectsports.com for Brian Fitzsimmons' feature entitled "SHU drops hearbreaker to CCSU."

For more coverage on women's basketball, go to www.insidectsports.com for Steve Conoscenti's feature on Amanda Pape entitled, "Amanda Pape: A true Pioneer."
Pape honored for achievements on the court

After a tough defeat at the hands of Long Island University on Monday, there was something for senior guard Amanda Pape to smile about. After all, she joined an exclusive list that includes former University of Connecticut basketball stars Rebecca Lobo, Diana Taurasi, and Nykesha Sales.

Mike Barrett
Spectrum Columnist
Rubino.

"My team definitely helped me win this award both from this year and last. Nicole definitely helped me last year and has influenced me as a player this year,"

Pioneer coach Ed Swanson also commented on Pape's award.

"Amanda's award is terrific. It is definitely tremendous honor for her to be mentioned with some of the all-time greats for women's basketball. We are definitely looking forward to celebrating the award in April."

This award not only means a lot for Pape but also for the school and team. "I think this award will help the team a bit, but not nearly as much as the success the team has had over the past couple of years," Pape has not only experienced this success on the college level. In her high school years at Trinity Catholic, Pape led her team to two state championship titles while finishing her career with 2,429. Her points mark still stands as the highest total for either men or women in the city of Stamford history.

However, Pape didn't believe that her success at Trinity would translate into the great success she has had here at Sacred Heart.

"When I came in as a freshman, I just wanted to play and give it a 110 percent everyday. I had no idea that I would end up like this."

So is this award the greatest accomplishment for Pape in her basketball career? "This award is great, but it still doesn't match up to the NEC title last year. That was a great feeling for the team and myself and probably the best accomplishment I have experienced."

With the end of the season drawing near, the Pioneer's will need Pape in order to match the success they had last year. And when her college career comes to an end, it doesn't mean the end for basketball for all-star senior.

"After college, I definitely want to play basketball," said Pape.

And wherever she does play, it will beginning of a new chapter for Pape and a new place where she can showcase her talent that made her one of Connecticut's greats.

You can reach Mike Barrett at barrett@sh.edu.

Sideline Report

Pape honored for achievements on the court

First place hoops heartbreak

Pat Pickens
Sports Columnist

It is not very often that Amanda Pape, Jasmine Walker and the Sacred Heart women's basketball team are tied at halftime and don't find a way to end up on top, especially in the friendly confines of the William H. Pitt Center.

But this is a new year.

Despite 19 points and nine rebounds from Walker, the Long Island Blackbirds marched onto the home floor of the Pioneers and knocked off the defending NEC champions, 57-48, in front of a stunned 683 at the William H. Pitt Center on Monday night.

"LIU was better in every aspect of the game," coach Ed Swanson said. "They deserved this one."

The Blackbirds got 19 points from Mikaela Whippy, including three clutch three-pointers in the second half. LIU shot 66.7 percent from three point range for the game.

The Pioneers also got little else offensively, other than Walker, Pape, and sophomore Kaitlin Sowinski. The trio combined to score 44 of the 48 Pioneer points for the game.

"We only had those three scoring for us and it is not enough," Swanson said. "We need someone else to step up."

LIU also did a terrific job of controlling Pape in the second half. The senior, who was named Choice Hotels/NEC Player of the Week, on Monday was held without a field goal, and just to two measly free throws, while outscoring the Pioneers 33-24 in the second stanza.

"I think the extra effort of going after loose balls and bringing the extra energy hurt us the most," said Walker. "We came out with energy, they just came out with more, since this is such a hard place to get a win."

With the win, LIU moves to 10-1, they have won 10 straight games and lead the Pioneers by a game and a half at 8-2. Both teams will not meet again this season in the regular season, and would likely not face each other until the NEC Tournament Final.

"It was a big game," Swanson said. "But what's nice about this is that there is always tomorrow."

"Our weaknesses were exposed, so we will have to work on them."

The Pioneers are off until Saturday, where they will duke it out with Central Connecticut St. The Pioneers beat the Blue Devils 73-61 this past Saturday. Game time is 2 p.m.

Jay Gagliardi
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart saw its 12-point halftime lead dwindle into an eventual 103-96 overtime loss to conference rival Central Connecticut State University on Saturday in New Britain.

Sacred Heart got off to an impressive start on Saturday, opening up the game with a 12-2 lead and stellar three point shooting.

The Pioneers seemed to have the game in hand going into halftime with a 42-30 lead, but Central came out looking like a new team in the second half and was able to turn a once 19 point deficit into a 103-96 win and sole possession of first place in the NEC.

"It was a hard game to take especially because we played very well offensively," said coach Dave Bike.

"Going into the game we wanted to play as a balanced offense, using both our inside and outside weapons," said Bike.

Sacred Heart did just that and more on the defensive end as well. It caused 15 first half turnovers and only turned the ball over itself seven times in the first half.

Sacred Heart shot 51.6 percent from the field in the first half thanks to impeccable shooting by Brice Brooks, who tied his career high with 14 points.

The tables turned in the second half as Central would not be outdone in front of a great home crowd. Central looked like a totally different team behind the game's scoring leader Tristan Blackwood who scored 29 of his 32 points in the second half.

Sacred Heart however, did not simply hand the game over to the Blue Devils, but in fact owed the game's largest lead of 19 with 16 minutes left to play.

This is when Sacred Heart saw its double digit lead start slipping and turn into a 27-11 run by the Blue Devils.

This run in a matter of ten minutes triggered by Blackwood's three point shooting cut The Pioneer's lead to a bucket.

The two teams traded baskets from this point on and Central found its first lead of the game with just under a minute to go in regulation.

Matching that basket was Henley, putting the Pioneers back up one with 3.8 seconds to go.

Central's Javier Mojica would follow by hitting one of two free throws and forcing the game to go into overtime.

That momentum and great shooting from Blackwood was all Central needed to come back from 19 to hand SHU its second conference loss and a shot to second place in league play.

"I think we are in good position right now, but there is still a lot of basketball to be played. I told the kids not to look too far ahead and keep in mind that every game is important," said Bike.

Sacred Heart's next game will be at home against Fairleigh Dickinson on Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Burke is back; women's hoops jolts Blue Devils

Alyssa Iannotti
Staff Reporter

On Saturday, the Sacred Heart women's basketball team headed upstate to Central Connecticut in which four players posted double figures in a 73-61 win over the Blue Devils.

The win was achieved by the return of senior tri-captain Kerri Burke who re-entered the lineup after missing six games due to a knee injury.

Burke, who suffered a knee injury suffered on January 3 at Mount Saint Mary played 14 minutes and scored 13 points, 10 in the second half.

"It felt great. I was a little nervous before the game but when we got out on the court I just put it out of my mind," said the senior guard from Saugus, Mass. "It's been tough. I had three years without any kind of injury and then this year, my senior season, I've had to battle back from two separate injuries. But I just wanted to get back, that is all I have been focused on."

The Pioneers jumped out to blistering start in the first half and led 35-19 at the break. They had to overcome some sloppy play in the second half but prevailed as the victors to improve their record to 8-1 in conference play and 13-7 overall which ties them with Long Island for first place in the Northeast Conference standings.

The Lady Pioneers started with a 7-0 lead after a couple of early threes by Lisa Moray and Amanda Pape. The Pioneers boosted the lead to 20-2 at the ten-minute mark, while CCSU missed its first 15 shots of the game. Moray tallied another three with six minutes left to make the lead to 27-6.

The Blue Devils closed the gap in the opening minutes of the second half to pull within 37-25 but consecutive lay-ups by Jasmine Walker, Pape and Katie Sowinski opened up the gap again for SHU to 43-25. Yet, with ten minutes to go CCSU crept to within 51-41.

But Pape, who earlier in the day was named Connecticut Sports Writer's Alliance Female Athlete of the year, went on a splurge with a pair of lay-ups and a jumper after which the Pioneer lead didn't fall below 12 the rest of the way.

"I thought we had a great start but we made too many stupid mistakes," said Pape. "We have a lot of stuff to work on going forward."

Pape led all the scorers with 21 points, and added six steals and four assists in the win. Moray finished with 17 points and shed her career record by grabbing 10 rebounds. Sowinski also added 12 points to help in the win over CCSU.

"I thought we had a great start but we let up a bit," Burke said. "There was definitely some good and some bad but we got the win, that's all that matters."

Drew's return lifts men's hockey

Pat Pickens
Sports Columnist

Stefan Drew's broken right hand had forced Sacred Heart coach Shaun Hannah to ride starting goalie Jason Smith for 16 straight games.

The backup goalie made his return to the lineup with a bang Saturday night as the Pioneers shut out Canisius 4-0 in front of 446 at the Milford Ice Pavilion.

The shutout was the first of the season for Drew and the second of his career. His first came on Feb. 4, 2006, against Army.

"It was a big lift for us," Hannah said of Drew, who stopped all 30 shots the Golden Griffins fired on the sophomore. "He hasn't played in a while. We have two great goalies here, and it is good for (Drew) to step up and get us a win because we needed the points tonight."

Four different Pioneers scored goals and nine different players tallied points as Sacred Heart, which led 2-0 after a period, improved to 15-7-4, 12-4-4 AHA. Canisius fell to 6-19-2, 6-13-2 AHA.

"It is important for us to have the depth in the lineup," Hannah said. "It's tough to win when you only have one line. Good balance is a key to winning."

The Pioneers' penalty-killers knocked off seven Canisius power plays, and scored a shorthanded goal. Sacred Heart also was 1-0-2 on the power play.

The shorthanded goal was a bonus," Hannah said. "Our penalty kill was very good tonight, which is good because we took some penalties."

Both teams combined for 47 minutes in penalties.

The Pioneers will return to action on Friday night at 7 at the Milford Ice Pavilion against UConn.

This article appeared in the Connecticut Post on January 28.

For more Sacred Heart hockey coverage, go to www.insidetsports.com for Brian Fitzsimmons' feature on Hobey Baker award candidate Pierre-Luc O'Brien entitled, "The Long and Winding Road."

Third period surge quiets Canisius

Gabrielle Castanella
Staff Reporter

Five different Pioneers scored, and Sacred Heart men's hockey used a team effort to defeat Canisius 5-2 on Friday night at the Milford Ice Pavilion.

The win pushed the team into a tie for second with Army and only three points back of first-place RIT.

"This game showed good team character," said junior Scott Marchesi, South Portland, Maine. "We wanted to play a complete game with minimal mistakes and that's what we did."

Sophomore Eric Giosa of Northville, Mich. scored the first goal in the second period with the assistance of Dave Grimson, sophomore, Mozart, Saskatchewan and Jason Smith, senior, St. Lambert, Quebec 1:22 into the period. The goal was Giosa's tenth of the season.

But, Canisius came back with a goal with a goal that tied the game, with 16:48 left in the second. The score became 2-1 after Marchesi assisted by Kyle Tyl, sophomore, Sandy Hook and Drew Sanders, senior, Modesto, Calif. scored but Canisius came right back with a goal with 10:06 left in the game to tie it up once more.

Freshman David Jarman of Toronto, Ontario tallied what would be the game-winning goal and made the score 3-2 at the 1:59 mark of the third period with the assistance of Corey Laurysen, freshman, Carp, Ontario.

"It was good to see all the lines firing. That's what we are going to need heading into the playoffs," said sophomore Bear Trapp, Regina, Saskatchewan.

With 13:09 left in the third period defenseman Paul Ferraro, sophomore, Pleasantville, N.Y. received a pass from Jarman at the point, and with one strong whack of the puck netted his first career collegiate goal, making the game 4-2.

"I think we had a good team effort and it was nice to see all of our lines chipping in to help out with the scoring," Grimson said. "It was nice to get back on the winning track again after our little lapse we have had lately."

Paul's brother, senior Peter Ferraro of Pleasantville, N.Y. tacked on a third goal in the third period to make the final score 5-2. Peter was assisted by Nick Johnson, freshman, Windsor and Laurysen.
Dixon, Giordano lead the way

Kendra Sloan
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University Track Team competed in the 15th Annual Lehigh Covert Classic. The men’s team placed second, as the women’s team placed fourth overall.

Both teams placed better than last year. The men’s team placed higher in the tournament than last year. The men’s team placed third last year and the women’s team placed fourth. In speaking with Evan Lasher, a senior from Pleasant Valley, N.Y., he remarked on the team’s ability to place second even though they are trying to work out a few kinks for the upcoming conference championship.

With a comeback performance in the works “I was planning on bringing my throws back up (at the meet on Saturday), with many warm up throws that would have won the meet,” said Lasher.

“I was happy to be throwing that far again,” said Lasher. He placed first in the event he was speaking to me about, the weight throw.

The Sacred Heart track team put up some impressive stats, finishing in the top three of many events. The men placed first in the 4x800 meter relay. Arman Dixon and Scott Giordano claimed the first and second spots, respectively, in the 60 meter dash. They also claimed first individually, Dixon in the long jump and Giordano in the 400 meter dash.

Jason Soule and Robert Bojes placed second and third, respectively, in the 500 meter dash. Evan Lasher and Michael Paradis took first and second place in weight throw. A few of the men placed third in their individual events. Luis German in the 800 meter dash, Alonzo Meek in the 60 meter hurdles, Jared Maher in the high jump, and Keith Rowe in the heptathlon.

The women did almost equally as well placing first in two events and second in three events. Brittany Dexter placed first in the high jump and Kathleen Henry placed second in the one mile run. The women claimed the top two spots in the weight throw by Mursila Locke and Christine Yakubee, and second and third in the indoor pentathlon by Melissa Kostant and Sarana Hyatt. They capped the meet by placing third in the 4x400 meter relay and Anne Duffy placed third in the 3000 meter run.

The Sacred Heart University track team will compete again on their road to the conference championship at the second annual Gienagck Invitational. The meet will begin on February 2, 2007 at Coxe Cage in New Haven.
Stefan Drew made 30 saves in Saturday’s 4-0 win at the Milford Ice Pavilion over Canisius. The win clinched a weekend sweep on the Golden Griffins. This was the sophomore goalie’s first game back after missing time due to a broken hand.