Students embark on religious retreat

Student’s ‘encounter’ Christ at weekend retreat

It was offered by Campus Ministry to help students focus on themselves and their essential relationship with God over three days of fun and reflection.

“The Encounter with Christ [Retreat] offers community time, self-reflection and prayer,” said Jacci Olen, senior, Canton, Mass. who has attended the retreat several times. “It is a stress free weekend where you can forget about the daily hassles of life.”

From Friday, Feb. 2 to Sunday, Feb. 4, students traveled to the Nazareth Spiritual Life Center in Monroe for the 47th annual retreat.

The program is offered to any student who feels they need a short weekend getaway to get in touch with their spiritual side.

See WEEKEND on page 3...

Courtney Kohloff
Staff Reporter

Busy schedule got you praying for some “extra” help?

The “Encounter with Christ Retreat” was the answer to many students’ prayers last weekend. Between classes, work, friends and living the college life, being overwhelmed is a common emotion.

The Encounter with Christ Retreat

Students took the weekend to come back to their religion.
SHUper Photo of the Week

‘Weighty’ issue concerns beauty and body image

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Both of these deaths have raised concern in the fashion world.

Some top models may now be kicked off the catwalk because of a ban put on “super-thin chic.”

This “weighty” issue was also made prominent in the past when models like Kate Moss, hit the runway with a look known as “heroin chic.”

During Madrid’s Fashion Week, certain models were banned from participating in the show due to their unhealthy, and skeletal, stature. A new law is being introduced concerning the weight of specifically models under the age of 18.

New York lawmaker, Jose Rivera, is leading the fight in establishing “healthy” weight standards for young fashion models.

Rivera wants to create a state advisory board to set standards and guiding principles for models and entertainers under the age of 18.

The recommended board will include health experts, industry representatives, models and entertainers.

Some people, like professor and author Debbie Danowski, “Spectrum Newspaper” and “Pioneer Magazine” advisor who has published four books concerning body image issues, believes this proposed law crosses a very important line.

“Any regulation that we pass about someone’s body, no matter how well-intentioned, crosses a line,” said Danowski.

“Body weight is very personal.

“Because of the nature of the law and the law being directed towards TV stars and models under 18, there’s a different level of acceptance about this sort of law. I think it’s very much designed to protect those suffering from a growing problem that can be fatal.”

Christina McCaffrey, freshman, Waterford, has done modeling in the past and believes body issues, especially on the runway, go beyond physical weight.

“Even though there is such a strong pressure on teens today about their image, you can’t set a weight [for models and entertainers],” said McCaffrey. “It’s not all about the numbers.”

Brian Germain, sophomore, Wallingford, favors Rivera’s proposed weight law.

“I think it’s a good law because body image is an issue that plagues the country,” said Germain. “It is not right that wherever adolescent girls turn, be it on billboards, TV, or in magazines, there is a skinny girl prancing around. Society should not be subjected to such images that promote unrealistic expectations.

“It’s absurd that young women should have so much pressure on them to look thin when the average size woman is a 14. But you would never be able to tell that by watching commercials or anything.

“I think it’s about time young girls started seeing a more fair representation of the American public wherever they turn.”

But with the media’s main focus today being on body image and weight, people’s perception of beauty has been distorted.

Julie Wilson, senior, Natick, Mass. believes that despite whether the weight law is passed or not, beauty goes beyond the heavy issue of weight.

“I think that if young girls see models that are at a healthy weight it will help them to realize that beauty comes in many sizes. [They] don’t have to be thin to be beautiful.”

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 raine@shspectrum.com
Black History Month celebrates culture and diversity

February is packed with campus events for all to enjoy

Leah Gallagher
Staff Reporter

Black History Month is here and SHU has packed the month of February with a variety of events to give students and faculty the chance to celebrate. So, what are some of the major events planned to spark students’ interest?

From Tuesday’s lecture by Jay Wright (an African-American poet, essayist, theologian, and dramatist) to Wednesday’s performance by African Dance and Drumming Group Sankofa Kuumba, Black History Month has already started off well.

“I really want everybody there. All of these events are made for all of Sacred Heart,” said Karima Umah, Coordinator of International & Multicultural Affairs, who has done a great deal of work to arrange such elaborate celebrations for this month.

“I think everybody can learn and take something from these events, there is no target audience at all,” said Umah.

Today February 8th Robin Roberts from Good Morning America will be here. On Feb. 17, a Gospel Fest will be held in the Edgerton Center of Performing Arts; Feb. 18 a Broadway Series with Student Activities will be going to see “The Color Purple,” and Feb. 20, an African dance and drum team called Mikata will perform.

“I’ve actually always wanted to see the ‘Color Purple’ so I am definitely going to try to get tickets for that,” said Jessica Perez, sophomore, Santa Maria, Calif. “It sounds like there is a ton going on and I found an event that I would want to go to so I am sure other people will too.”

AP Photo/ Chip Somodevilla

On Feb. 21, the “What up Funk Band” will perform in the Outpost at 10:10 p.m. The Pub side will be open to those over 21 and there will be free food for everyone. There will also be a prize given away to the “fkinstest” guy” and to the “fkinstest girl” to attend the event.

“All of those things sound interesting and if I have time I might go to a few of them,” said Betsy Harvey, sophomore, Farmington. “I have never seen any traditional African dancing so I might check out one of those groups coming. I listen to a lot of music so it might be cool to go see the ‘What Up Funk’ band too.”

Black History Month will wrap up on Feb. 27 with the “Shades of Poetry,” where anyone can come to read their own or someone else’s work, or just to listen to others and hang out.

For some, though, Black History Month will extend beyond February.

“Since the schools in Bridgeport are closed Feb. 19-23, we’ll probably extend Black History month well into March,” said Phyllis Machledt, Director of Service Learning and Volunteer Programs.

Through Machledt’s program, a number of read alouds are planned during Black History Month.

“We are planning to do Read Alouds during Black History month and will be sending out emails to recruit readers,” said Machledt explaining that one of them is planned for today, Feb. 8, at the Maplewood Annex after school program from 4 to 5 p.m.

Advertisement for Black History Month events can be seen throughout campus as well as Channel 6, global e-mails and even Facebook.

Your future is in good hands with Career Development

Susan Patton
Staff Reporter

Providing career support now and later. That’s what the Career Development Center does by working with alumni, undergraduate and graduate students to help them take full advantage of their educational achievements.

“It’s nice to have somewhere to go when we’re young and still need guidance as to what we should do with our lives outside of college,” said Nick Lambusta, junior, Yonkers, N.Y. “The Career Center is very helpful in giving you that first step into the so-called ‘real world.’”

When they talk, it’s Trish Aguila Klauser, Executive Director of the office of Career Development.

“When students pick up their cap and gown for graduation, we survey them to see who has a job and who is going to graduate school,” Klauser said that about eight months later, they e-mail the students and see if there’s anything they can do to help them.

To start, career fairs are a good way to network and explore different career fields.

“So many students think the employers cater just to business majors; not true. Sixty-five percent of employers coming to the career fair will be looking at other majors,” said Klauser. “The career fair on Feb. 22 will be the biggest — biggest meaning the most number of employers we’ve ever had.”

There will be over 100 employers attending the fair and looking to hire.

“Whether you’re looking for your first job, your next job, a better job, or a whole new career, eRecruiting is a helpful website to visit. The Career Development Center has provided this website to assist students and alumni search for jobs, internships, and co-ops. Users of this site can even upload their resumes to eRecruiting. “After the Career Center edited my resume, I uploaded it to the eRecruiting website and found my internship there,” said Andrew Waylett, Sacred Heart University Alumni, Marshfield, Mass. “I interned for American Homeowners Association in their finance department and gained a basic foundation of work experience to prepare myself for my current job as an internal auditor for Marsh & McLennan Companies.”

The Career Center encourages graduating seniors to make an appointment in the near future. Creating result-oriented resumes, enhancing interviewing skills, learning networking tips and how to present yourself professionally in the job bank, are just a few advantages they offer.

“I know for me it is a reassurance that after the four years of education at Sacred Heart University, we’re not just being sent out into the real world completely on our own,” said Jessica Phelan, junior, Wantagh, N.Y. “[The career center] gives us the guidance needed to lead us in the right direction for a successful future.”

The Career Center is located at room 215 in Curtis Hall. It is open 9 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays.

Weekend retreat takes time out for a ‘spiritual journey’

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Last weekend, 52 students took the “spiritual journey,” making this years retreat the largest one in Sacred Heart history.”

Encounter with Christ is student-run and is the largest retreat offered at SHU. Although the retreat is a Sacred Heart sponsored event, our University is not the only school doing this sort of retreat. Similar events take place all the time, worldwide.

“Encounter with Christ is a really relaxing chance to get to know myself better,” said Jillian Crisci, junior, New Paltz, N.Y. “I can also get in touch with my relationships with God in an effective way.”

Diana Bramante, senior, North Bellmore, N.Y. agrees with Crisci and finds the retreat to be very memorable.

“I had a great experience. The best part was meeting new people and being away from the everyday craziness,” said Bramante. “No watches, computers or cell phones. My stay was great. It was a weekend of reflection, laughs and just time to think about myself and the relationships in my life.”

Other students, like Danielle Thibault, junior, North Haven, has heard a lot of positive feedback about the retreat and hopes to attend it next year.

“A lot of my sorority sisters have gone on the retreat before,” said Thibault. “I’ve heard nothing but positive feedback from them about how they felt more in touch with themselves and God.”

Mark the date! The Career Fair could be the ticket to the job of your dreams.

The Spectrum/ Kate Bredia
News

Does peace have a chance?

The issues. The opinions. The facts. The latest.
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Show some love (or like) this Valentine’s Day
Is this ‘holiday’ about spending money or emotional meaning?

Anne Dunne
Staff Reporter

Candy, chocolates, flowers and lots of red everywhere.

“Love” is in the air... when it comes to Valentine’s Day.

But is this “heartfelt holiday” one to celebrate or a media savvy way to play upon human emotions?

Hearts are torn at Sacred Heart about Feb. 14.

“All holidays, like so many other aspects of our life, are contaminated by commercialism, but we don’t have to let that spoil things for us,” said Professor Sid Gottlieb, Media Studies Department. “I’m a great believer in celebrating all holidays, making them special days, and finding ways to enjoy them.

“I’m good at making up holidays of my own as well, though they don’t usually get celebrated by everybody else.”

Students, like Jenine Kleeman, junior, Manalapan, N.J. agree with Gottlieb’s opinion celebrating holidays, specifically Valentine’s Day.

“Although I’m a huge fan of Valentine’s Day, and it probably does originate from the whole ‘Saint Valentine,’ it seems to have become more of a marketing scheme,” said Kleeman. “But then again, so has Christmas. All holidays have just become a way for our economy to profit through sales of ornaments, cards, food, toys, etc. But I still love Valentine’s Day.”

Valentine’s Day does not just have to be about being in love.

“[Valentine’s] Day is just a fun day to celebrate with some one you care about,” said Colleen Deegan, junior, Massapequa, N.Y. “It is also a good way for card/candy companies to make some money.”

But is spending money just what next weeks holiday is all about?

Valentine’s Day can be your chance to show someone you care, with or without money.

“I think that the only bad parts of holidays are when they are used to make us feel guilty, or obligated to do certain things or act in certain ways,” said Gottlieb. “Holidays should be times of relief and release.

“I’m not sure that for this coming Valentine’s Day I’ll be allowing anybody out of the way in the line for chocolate or jewelry or cards that tell me what I should be thinking or saying. But I may find the time to get a rose or a bunch of flowers and see if I can write a few lines of my own to my special Valentine and I’ll try to remember to say them even on days that are not on the calendar.”

Join the ‘tug-of-war’ to save a young boy’s life

Kathleen Vissichelli
Staff Reporter

“Pioneer Pulls Trevor Fund” is a tug-of-war event that will be held in March to help make a difference in a young boy’s life.

Planned by the Student Government’s Special Events Committee, the event’s goal is to raise money for the family of a 5-year-old boy named Trevor Palmer from Milford, N.H. who was diagnosed with Severe Aplastic Anemia in January of 2006.

The disease leads to a reduced number of white blood cells making the person susceptible to severe infection. As a result, Palmer has undergone several bone marrow transplants over the last year.

“Everyday we are amazed at the generosity of people,” said Naomi Palmer, Trevor’s mother, in response to the support that her family has received. “It has been a very long road and everyday he continues to fight. I find a lot of times I get very emotional when people help Trevor with fundraisers.”

Palmer is cared for at the Children’s Hospital in Boston. He has had a huge amount of support from people all over New England who have become aware of his battle through a website that his family has for him that is updated daily on his status.

“I think it’s a really great thing what the student government is doing, it gives college students a chance to see that there is more in the world than what we see on our campus, and it’s a great way for students to give to a great cause,” said Megan Black, sophomore, Mystic.

The event, which is being led by Leah Gallagher, sophomore, Winchester, Mass., and Colleen Carney, senior, Yorktown, N.Y., will take place March 25. It will cost 15 dollars per team of 6 students. Other donations are welcome. Prizes will be available for the team that wins, the team with the best costume, and the team that brings in the most money, said Carney.

“As a student body we should try to create a better situation for Trevor, as that’s what his mother wants, he can have adulthood,” said Director of Greek Life and Leadership Programs Jane Sanders.

MONEY FOR COLLEGE

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In love with love
Why people love Valentine's Day

Rachel Maresca
Staff Reporter

What is it about February 14 that brings out the best and the worst in people?
In season two of a Sex and the City episode entitled, "They Shoot single peo-
ple, don't they?" That seems to be how single people feel on this day. The best
part about Valentine's Day is having a signi-
ficant other to celebrate it with, without
them this day has no meaning. It seems
that it's just there to make people feel bad
about themselves, however, in other cases
really good.

Valentine's Day doesn't always have
to be a miserable experience, I know what
you're all thinking; if you don't have
someone it does. However, everyone
needs to keep in mind that if you're single
right now, it doesn't mean your always
going to be. When that day comes and you
are with that someone special who
you'll want to celebrate the day with your
boyfriend or girlfriend it will seem much
more extraordinary. Before you know it
your going to fall in to all the cliches of
this "stupid" holiday.

"I definitely feel differently about this
holiday now that I have a boyfriend. This
is my 1st valentines day with a boy, so
I'm excited this year to actually be able
to celebrate the holiday. I'm usually really
depressed eating boxes of chocolate that
my dad gives me," said Francesca Grasso,
junior, Northford.

"I hate Valentine's Day, but I got to do
what I got to do," said Nick Logrea, junior,
Ossining, N.Y.

Most guys would probably agree with
Logrea, they just do what they have to do
to make their girlfriends happy. However,
the bottom-line is guys do make their girl-
friends happy when they participate in this
holiday. By making their girlfriend happy,
it should make them happy. It doesn't
matter how much chocolate, flowers, and
jewelry they have to buy.

Most couples out there know that this
holiday is just there to buy more gifts for
their significant other less then two months
after Christmas, but couples can't ignore
it. It can be a fun day if you want it to be,
and if I dare say it, there are positive
things that are associated with this day.
Things like happiness when you get roses
in the mail from your boyfriend, or freshly
baked cookies in the shape of hearts from
your girlfriend.

Unlike when we were all children,
when Valentine's day was as simple as you
would get a card and candy from everyone
in your second grade class. It has now turned
into a day we feel we have to celebrate and
if were not celebrating it, we hate it. So,
have fun on this day, it can be a good day
if you want it to be, I mean it's the one day
a year you can eat a whole box of chooco-
laces with absolutely no judgment, who
wouldn't like a day like that?

The Spectrums / Ashlee Kamimura

Every couple celebrates differently, this may or may not include candy and flow-
ers.

What is the worst
Valentine's Day
you ever had?

Nicole Cristallo
Junior, Eastchester, N.Y.

"My worst Valentines Day ever
was two years ago. I broke up with
my boyfriend the day before beca-
use I found out he was cheating on
me."

Frank Totino
Junior, Levittown, N.Y.

"My best Valentines Day was
when I bought my girlfriend a
dozen roses, a teddy bear, and a
necklace, and left it in her locker
for her to find after her game."

Marvin Daniels
Junior, Providence, R.I.

"I don't celebrate Valentines Day."

Jessica Hartley
Junior, Westerly, R.I.

"My best Valentines Day ever
was last year when my boyfriend
surprised me by visiting me at
school."
Chocolates, flowers, and hearts Oh My!

Kathryn Carroll
Staff Reporter

Each year in the month of February, comes a time when everything you see is pink, red and has the word “love” all over it, this Hallmark holiday is also known as Valentine’s Day.

Some SHU students enjoy flow- ers, chocolates, cards and stuffed animals yet they don’t understand why only some get these gifts and others just sit and wish for them.

Last year on Valentines day alone consumers spent $13.70 billion.

“Valentine’s Day is the fourth biggest holiday of the year for confection- ery purchases, after Halloween, Easter and Christmas, according to the National Confectioners Association.”

While celebrating your love on Valentine’s Day is wonderful, is it necesa- ry to pick one day out the year and spend a huge amount of $13.70 billion? Why not celebrate your love everyday without the typical gifts that comes along with the holiday? “It’s an okay holiday and without a doubt more enjoyable if you can spend it with someone. If not its kind of nothing special you know? It’s just a commercial holiday with no real meaning behind it,” said Nicole Ackerina, junior, East Rockaway, N.Y. When it comes to the both the young men and young women whom were interviewed having that special someone on Valentine’s Day doesn’t mean that your day will be perfect. Some girls have high expectations that can’t be reached because of the over- whelming pressure by media and commer- cial companies like Hallmark.

“This picture perfect holiday is quite overrated when you date a broke college kid. It’s like your competing with your other friends to see who’s going to spend the most money and who was the most thoughtfu1,” said Ellen Magovern, junior, Belmar, N.J.

How are SHU students feeling during this holiday rolls by?

“I don’t pay attention to the holiday especially when I don’t have someone to share it with. I just go on like any other day,” said Erin Anderson, junior, Carle Place, N.Y.

“I feel cold and jaded, so ladies call me!” said Paul Robertson, junior, Port Chester, N.Y.

“ I think its a fake holiday and its just a day for guys to get girls flowers for no reason what so ever. The only good thing is that I am single so I don’t have to celebrate it. Although the holiday can make someone feel like they do need a girlfriend,” said, Bryan Gregor, junior, East Hampton, N.Y.

For some it is a terrible feeling and a deep sense of loneliness when the holiday celebration leaves one with out the mate- rialistic presents that everyone else seems to be receiving.

Valentine day makes a number of people at SHU feel like the cards, candy and flowers of all the happy couples is shoved in single students face. “The criticism can be made that we as a society get caught up in this one day celebration of this holiday, but what we should actually be sharing is the generous spirit of love for one another 365 days out of the year,” said Magovern.

Valentines day has placed tremendous pressure and value of materialism on stu- dents. Why can’t there be a holiday that celebrates love, beauty in one self? A day devoted to celebrating how unique you are? After all, the holiday is based on love. Being true in our society do we celebrate a holiday that is supposed to be celebrat- ing love and making people happy, makes people who are alone feel even more lonely and sad? Candy, flowers, jewelry, stuffed animals playing cliche romantic songs, how is one to decide what to get their valentine?

How to have a healthy relationship: Brought to you by peer ed

Rosas Are Red, Violets Are Blue, I’m in a Healthy Relationship, What About You?

Hopefully you and your significant other are treating one another fabulously. If you’re not sure that’s the case why not take a step back from the dizzying sen- sation of being swept off your feet; and think about whether your relationship is as healthy as you might think it is. If you are making a relationship healthy? We’ll it’s sort of like a cake. In order for the cake to taste great, you need the perfect amount of all the necessary ingredients.

Ingredient 1: Mutual R-E-S-P-E-C-T: Does your partner listen when you say you’re not comfortable doing something and then immediately back off? RESPECT in a relationship means that each person values who the other is and understands that and would never challenge the other person’s boundaries.

Ingredient 2: TRUST: Have you ever felt jealous in your relationship? Well, jealousy is a very natural emotion. However, how a person reacts when he or she feels jealous is what really matters. Trust is complete and utter confidence in someone. There is no way you can have a healthy relationship if you don’t trust one another.

Ingredient 3: SUPPORT SYSTEM: In a healthy relationship, your significant other is there with a shoulder to cry on when you find yourself struggling with your roommates and also there to cele- brate with you when you land your dream internship or job.

Ingredient 4: SEPARATE Identities: In a healthy relationship everyone needs to make compromises. When you started dating you both had your own lives, your own families, friends, interests, hobbies, etc. and you SHOULDN’T change. You are both individuals with your own goals and interests.

Ingredient 5: COMMUNICATION: “Miscommunication leads to complica- tions.” There is no such thing as communi- cating too much. Communication is one of the biggest assets of a healthy, successful relationship. Communicate your feelings to your significant other. Your feelings are your own and no one can take them away from you. Your significant other shouldn’t criticize the way you feel. Relationships can be one of the great- est, most challenging parts of your life. Think about the qualities you value in a friendship and see how they match up with the ingredients of a healthy relationship. A healthy relationship exists when the relation- ship enhances your life and makes you a better person.

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Girls

Sports

I'm going to set you up with our relation- ish ftr work. But I'm trying to go out with Kate.

We need another girl interested in you to raise your market value...

...then you can date Kate with better terms.

But you said the receptionist isn't remotely att active. Doesn't that lower my value?

Only if you get caught.

The Good, Bad and Ugly of Valentine's Day

He Said/ She Said

The Good, Bad and Ugly of Valentine’s Day

Valentine’s Day is a day that couples spend together. There are roses and choco- lates everywhere. However, Valentine’s Day is different for everyone.

The most common is the traditional couple. The night will have a romantic dinner followed by a night of candles, wine and romance. This is the ideal inter- pretation of what the ideal Valentine’s Day would be.

Secondly, you have the single person who gets together with other single friends and use this day as an excuse to party. If they don’t have a significant other it is bet- ter to be with people you love as well as going out and having a wild night.

Thirdly, you have the sad person who only wants to have a significant other. For this person Valentine’s Day is miserable.

Lastly, you have the people that just ignore the day altogether. They can be single or couples. Many people believe the day has become commercialized and they refuse to celebrate it.

Overall, Valentine’s Day is different for everyone and each person needs to cele- brate or hate it in their own way.
Christopher Forsyth
Staff Reporter

"24," Fox's primetime show is set to make another big splash this winter with its sixth running season as Kiefer Sutherland reprises his role as Jack Bauer, counter-terrorist agent.

The "24" series is the story of a day in the life of Jack Bauer, and the predicaments that occur within this 24-hour period. The show is filmed in real time with each hour-long show corresponding to an hour in real life, giving it an authentic tone. Each season, with 24 episodes, represents one whole day, and each episode represents one hour within that day.

The series has many intricate plot twists that keep the viewer very attentive and hooked into watching week after week. Each season has a different terrorist threat that Jack has to confront in the 24 episodes. This is the essential formula for the series.

"The series from day one has been absolutely intense; it is unpredictable, and exciting. I have to watch it every week," said Mike Shanahan, sophomore, Norwalk.

Another important component of the show is its ability to make dramatic changes with each coming season. Main characters have been killed off and Bauer's position as a government agent has changed throughout the course of five seasons.

In season one, Jack Bauer's wife was kidnapped and murdered by terrorists, and in season five, Jack is believed to be deceased, but really goes into hiding, only to resurface when a terrorist threat arises yet again.

The sixth season starts with Jack Bauer being released after twenty months of imprisonment by the Chinese government. Jack returns to Los Angeles, only to find out that there is a terrorist named Abu Fayed planning to detonate bombs within the city borders. He immediately takes action to stop the bombings and the season begins.

"I think the new season started off great, I can't wait to see how Jack and the government resolve the problems with the terrorists," said Angeli Gagnon, freshman, Terryville.

"24" has been running for five consecutive seasons. As a testament to the writing, and acting, it has amassed a dedicated following. For this critically acclaimed show, viewers continue to tune in for the "edge of your seat drama." It has won two Golden Globes and twelve Emmy's in the past three years.

"I think the show is fantastic. It keeps me on my toes with each minute that goes by," said Olivia Soriano, sophomore, Brooklyn, N.Y.

"24" followers continue with renewed interest and the buzz is that it has generated even more fans with its...
Alumni David Boone walks the red carpet

SACRED HEART PIONEERS

CELEBRITY REPORT

Shelley Thomas
Staff Reporter

Have you ever fantasized about what it would feel like to walk down the red carpet? How about walking down it seven times?

Dave Boone graduated from Sacred Heart University in 1987 with a BS in Media Studies and a minor in Political Science. In 1998 he was hired by Billy Crystal to work on the 70th annual Academy Awards and has been writing for the show ever since.

Boone has worked with Billy Crystal three times, Steve Martin once, and Whoopie Goldberg twice. This year will be Dave's seventh time walking down the red carpet.

"Every year is fun," said Dave Boone, Norwalk. "One year I actually saw myself afterwards on E!"

Boone believes that the open-minded attitudes of his professors helped him achieve his goals and brought him to where he is today.

"Classes in political science were really important to me in terms of learning to use your mind, think for yourself, and have your own opinions," said Boone. "There was no right or wrong answer."

One professor that Boone remembers in particular is Dr. Gary L. Rose.

"I remember Dave Boone very well," said Rose, professor and chair of the Department of Government and Politics. "He had an excellent sense of humor, and I distinctly recall his detailed knowledge of the entertainment industry. He was one of our truly unique students."

Boone's Political Science background was very useful as it inspired him to write jokes for fellow alum, Kevin Nealon, when he was doing "Weekend Update" on "Saturday Night Live."

"He gave a big boost to my career, and so did Jay Leno, who was the first person I ever wrote material for about a year after I graduated," said Boone.

Dave has been nominated for a variety of awards including four Writers Guild Awards, the 75 Academy Awards, the 58, 59, and the 60 Tony Awards. He is also writing for the Writers Guild Awards ceremony, which will be held on Sunday, Feb. 11.

"It adds some stress to the evening to be responsible for the entire show and also worry about winning or seeing someone else walk off with the trophy," said Boone. "I hope this is my year."

Boone's advice for any aspiring writer would be, "If I can do it, you can do it."

"Someone once told me 'don't do it' is the best advice anyone can give," said Boone. "A lot of doors get shut in your face, but if you still want to do it even after the door closes, you will succeed."

I was writing for 10 years before I got a call from Billy Crystal. I could have given up, but I knew it was something I always wanted to do.

Contributed Photo

Movie Review:

Stranger than Fiction

Lisa Brown
Staff Reporter

"Stranger than Fiction" written by Zach Helm and directed by Marc Forster, was shown in the Schine Auditorium, Friday Feb. 2 at 8 p.m. and, Saturday Feb. 3, at 2 p.m.

"Stranger than Fiction" is the story of Harold Crick (Will Ferrell), a lonely IRS agent who has lived a solitary existence. In the film Karen Eiffel (Emma Thompson) is an author writing her latest novel about an isolated man. What she doesn't realize is that her fictional character is real.

One day Harold begins to hear his life being chronicled by Karen's voice. The narration begins to affect his entire life, from his work and his love-interest, to his death. Harold finds trouble when the voice narrates that his character is facing "imminent" death.

Desperate for help, Harold seeks out literary professor Jules Hilbert (Dustin Hoffman) to find out what is hap-pening. Harold ends up changing things about his life including begin-ning a relationship with his IRS cli-ent, a bakery owner named Ana Pascal (Maggie Gyllenhaal) who initially hated him. Harold realizes he must find out who is writing his story and persuade her to change the ending.

The 113-minute PG-13 rated film, is a romantic comedy-drama that has elements of fantasy. It was released on Nov. 13, 2006 and the film grossed $32,504,604 at the box office.

"I love Will Ferrell, and really wanted to see this movie, the ending was unexpected which was pretty cool," said Andrew Cabral, freshman, Brookfield.

Harold experiences true life and love for the first time just as he realizes his life could be ending soon. What Harold is unaware of is that in a Karen Eiffel tragedy, the heroic charac-ters always die when they have the most to live for.

"It was really easy to watch, I liked the unique plot; it's different than most movies," said Brittany Gold, sophomore, White Plains, N.Y. "I've also never seen Will Ferrell in a role like this before, it's not a typical comedy, it's even better."

With a "unique plot" and "unexpected" ending "Stranger than Fiction" has received praise, from both student and critics.
Online writing lab saves time for students who seek help

Joe DiGuglielmo
Staff Reporter

If one thing could be said about the way the Internet has affected our lives, it would be the way in which it has opened a whole new channel for communication.

The ability for us to email one another has lead to a revolutionary change in the way that students and their professors keep in touch and communicate at Sacred Heart.

The Jandrisevits Learning Center is now taking the initiative of stepping into the digital world by offering their Online Writing Lab (OWL) service.

What this is exactly is an extension of the Learning Center, not a replacement by any means.

In addition to still being able to make a traditional appointment to have a paper reviewed one-on-one, the student may now use this secondary method by filling out a quick email with a description of the assignment and explaining what kind of help is being requested.

When the paper is sent via email, a tutor makes suggestions for improvement and emails the paper back for revisions.

“I’ve never tried submitting a paper online, but it sounds like a really good idea. I would definitely try this out the next time I can’t find myself struggling with something,” said Brendan Donohue, junior, Melville, N.Y.

“It’s good to see that the Learning Center is seeking ways to expand and find new ways of reaching out to people,” said Donohue.

In the past, the only choice students had was to make an appointment for a 45 minute session with a tutor that could review their work.

The idea of not needing to have an appointment and having to wait around in case they can’t see you right away means not having to come back to campus and driving around looking for a parking spot, then I am all for it,” said Finneran.

What students can expect is an analysis of their work and they can make their papers better through advice given about organization, grammar, content development, thesis statement issues, and so on.

The lab is now also available online, so there’s no need to brave the elements in order to seek assistance.

A response should be received by the student in forty-eight, to seventy-two hours.

“I love it. It seems like such a natural and logical thing to do. I’m not surprised that this is being offered, since lately many of the common services we are used to, are finding their way onto the internet,” said Lauren Hering, junior, Bridgeport.

“I can see it being a big time saver for everyone. Hopefully it will really catch on for the future,” said Hering.

For those wanting more information on directions for properly submitting a paper to the Online Writing Lab, simply do a search on the Sacred Heart website for “OWL,” and the first result will lead you to the information page with detailed instructions.

Others wishing to get more information on scheduling a more traditional one-on-one in-person session at the writing center can call (203) 571-7820 and receive a notice of what time slots are currently available for tutors to help with any issues that students may be experiencing.

Looking for an experienced and responsible college student to babysit on Tuesdays from 8:30am-1:30pm in Darrien. Applicant must love children and have own transportation. Please call 203-202-9269 to set up an interview.

SHU’s gymnastics is ‘elite’ at what they do

Alyssa Larsen
Staff Reporter

Gymnastics is a sport involving the performance of sequences of movements requiring physical strength and flexibility.

SHU Elite was founded in the fall of 2003 by Maria Crapanzano in her junior year. She is currently a graduate student and remains involved, but is no longer able to compete with the team due to school policies.

Competitive gymnastic are ranked on levels, elite being the highest level.

SHU Elite created their name based off being the best at what they do as well as representing the location at which they practice ‘Stars Elite.’

SHU Elite is open to all students, male or female with any range of ability.

Currently there are 20 members; 19 females and one male.

“The conditioning and exercises that are done for gymnastics are great to help get anyone in shape,” said Maria Crapanzano, grad student, Milford.

In previous years SHU Elite spent the time dedicated to practices and participating at various campus events.

As of last year they came together to compete as a club team.

“We have a meet on February 17 at UPenn, National competition at the University of Miami and Cincinnati as well as participating at the SHU F.O.R.C.E. Recital at the end of April,” said captain Sarah Comeras, junior.

“When I was the president of SHU Elite, we participated in Habitat work days, collected canned goods at every meeting for the Thomas Merton Center and St. Stevens food pantry in Bridgeport, and the Bridgeport Rescue Mission Thanksgiving Dinner,” said Crapanzano.

To raise money for the club the members of SHU Elite host bake sales and flip a-thons at basketball games.

“For the past 2 years we have been involved with the Special Olympics at Wilton and we coach gymnastics for a few hours per week. It is a great experience,” said Comeras.

For the past four years there have not been tryouts.

SHU Elite is open to all levels of gymnasts.

All full-time students who are willing to work hard and have a positive attitude are welcome.

“I feel like we are all different people outside of gymnastics especially with our majors but when we are at practice it doesn’t matter and we get along so well. We are always joking around and supportive when one of the members needs it,” said Caitlyn Conley, junior, Ashland, Mass.

If you have no experience or have been doing gymnastics for 15 years, SHU Elite wants you.

“It’s a lot of fun,” said Conley.

“It’s really laid back, you can do whatever you want, and come to practice when you can,” said Conley.

“You can practice just to stay in shape and improve your skills or you can go on the competition team and go to meets to show off your routines. It’s also a way to get off of campus and away from the stress of school and have fun,” said Conley.

If you are interested in being involved on campus, want to meet new people with the same interests as you, contact Sarah Comeras to become a member of SHU Elite.
‘Plunge’ into the Special Olympics

Taylor Higgins  
Staff Reporter

On Saturday March 10th, Compo Beach is hosting this year’s Westport Penguin Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Connecticut (SOTC).

The Special Olympics is an international organization dedicated to individuals with intellectual disabilities in an effort to help them become physically fit, healthy, and respected members of society through the use of training and competition.

The Special Olympics currently serve more than 2.25 million people with intellectual disabilities in more than 200 programs in more than 150 countries.

Each year, SOTC accommodates more than 47 competitions in 22 different sports. SOTC is also supported by a vast majority of people including 7,000 volunteers, 900 coaches, and countless amounts of families and friends.

I think that the Special Olympics are a great opportunity for students to involve themselves in some kind of charity event. We don’t have much of it on campus so students should take advantage of the chance to do this type of event,” said Jessica Tomlin, senior, Manorville, N.Y.  

“I would love to do something like the Penguin Plunge. In this case, creativity can be to your favor. You can also win cool prizes while helping the intellectually disabled,” said Tom Austin, sophomore, Massapequa, N.Y.

For the Penguin Plunge, participants will plunge into the Long Island Sound with only bowties, and swimsuits (or costumes) to support the Special Olympics.

“All students are invited to plunge, and they can register at our website www.sotc.org. School teams are encouraged to participate as well, so if there’s a school team or group each person does their own fundraising but then the teams totals are combined so that they are eligible for prizes,” said Debbie Horne, Director of Development, Westport, who will be holding the event.

“Students are encouraged to wear costumes and make it fun. We will be having all different kinds of activities going on including aerobics, and there will also be refreshments,” said Horne.

“A lot of students do it, we got a great turnout last year,” said DJ Frank, a student from different schools participate as well as police officers, fire fighters and all different people from different parts of the community. It’s a great mix of people from all ages, groups and companies. But we’d love to have more students come down, they bring a lot of energy to the event,” said Horne.

“Our main mission is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community,” said Horne.

Sports teams, clubs, and individual students are encouraged to support Special Olympics and take the plunge.

“Penguins” who raise a minimum donation of $50 will be eligible to plunge.

Penguins that raise $100 or more are eligible to receive prizes.

Those who raise $5,000 or more will receive a cruise to the Caribbean for two. A win will always be given to the most creatively dressed.

Each proceeds of this event will go to the Special Olympics.

The Special Olympics benefits the intellectually challenged by promoting an acceptance, as well as creating a fusion between those who have and do not have disabilities.

Students are strongly encouraged to participate, for more information contact Theresa Vossilla at vosillat@sacredheart.edu.

A day in the life of Student Government President Jim Daly

Jennifer Spinelli  
Staff Reporter

If you have ever wonder what it is like to be the head of our student body, here is a glance at what it takes.

“If there is one thing I am good at, it is managing my time. I do so many different things in different areas that I have to have good time management skills. I love being busy and always on the go. It takes some time to get used to the rigorous day but I love it.” said Jim Daly, senior, Hazlet, N.J.

“Campaigning is crazy. I love it. You have to be totally crazy enough to win. You have to be willing to meet everyone I try to meet every student here at SHU and serve them to the best of my ability.”

“I have served as President for the entire year of my sophomore year. So was President all of my junior year than was rejected to being President again this year for my senior year.”

“Being Student Body President is a very demanding job. You have to love what you are doing and I absolutely do. I love being the person everybody comes to with their questions. I can’t explain how many emails I get from students asking me random questions and I enjoy responding back to each one.”

“I love the variety of personalities I interact with each day and the connections I am making that will help me later down the road in life.”

“I am the direct voice of the students to the administration. The job itself requires roughly 30 hours a week on top of my regu- lar scheduled classes. I am constantly in and out of meetings each day of the week.”

“I sit on various faculty committees of the Budget Review Committee (voting on tuition), NCAA Certification Committee, School Spirit Committee, various other Student Government Meetings. I help manage all of the clubs and organizations on campus also. When a major issue arises on campus, it is up to myself and others to relay that to the administration to help things get done.”

“There are many perks to being the Student Body President. One, you have the title. How cool is it to tell people that you meet, ‘Hey I’m the Student Body President.’ The administration knows you personally and is willing to do anything for you. It is a great feeling. I love it and I do not consider anything a disadvantage.”

“When I am not acting as Student Body President or going to class, I am actively involved on campus. I am one of the many fans who has their face painted and a corn skin cap on at games.”

“I help out and participate in many organizations such as campus ministry, school spirit, men’s rugby, habitat for humanity, student ambassadors, peer mentoring and more.”

Daly may be our Student Body President, but he is also a regular college kid.

If he isn’t at a meeting, organizing activities and fundraisers, then he is relazing at home or spending time with his friends.

“I enjoy going out with my best friends here for a good time singing karaoke, seeing a concert or making late night rides to Mohegan Sun.”

Even the President plays favorites.

“My favorite holiday has to be Thanksgiving. It is that one time of the year where you are guaranteed to see everybody and catch up. I look forward to that time to see my whole extended family and all of my high school friends and even friends from when I was really young.”

Daly is seen around campus all the time and is willing to answer any questions students may have, even if it’s just to say hello.

If you have any questions you may email me at jimdaly05@sacredheart.edu.

Ciao, from Italy

Jenna Rignanesi  
Staff Reporter

As I walk down three flights of marble stairs to the busy sidewalk below, I realize yet another enchanting day is before me, as I swing open the heavy bronze door.

My new pink scarf is secure- ly fastened and my bag pressed tightly to my chest as I step out onto the cobble-stoned street.

Blue skies and crisp air make for another beautiful day in Italy. The kind that starts early with a rush of excitement, like doing cartwheels down a hill, and ends late with the sounds of Italian men arguing and the steady pace of the tram outside.

I make my regular stop at Ernesto’s to order a plate of pasta and pastry of my choice is waiting for me bright and early each day. A welcoming man, speaking no English, bustles around the cafe taking orders. As Ernesto sits among his regular customers at the quaint square tables faced with red and white-checkered clothes, he tries to shove pizza in front of you for breakfast, I graciously turn him down but promise in my broken Italian, maybe tomorrow.

Running across the street rising streets, I dodge vespas and basques to reach the overcrowded tram. The stench of the tram is unlike anything in the world but the gypsy musicians make the time go by.

Discovering the Roman city was the excursion of my weekend. The Colosseum seemed large and cold in person. I close my eyes as I try to imagine these ancient warriors bat- tling in this massive arena. Suddenly the sun beats down and the light from the royal blue skies penetrated through the tiny windows and crevices of this enormous circular building. At this moment I knew I was in Rome.

The following morning I wake up at 7 a.m. to a quiet Saturday morning. My friends and I stop for a cappuccino then proceed on to the Vatican City. Our tall and lanky tour guide, Fabio, waits for us at the entrance at 9 a.m. sharp.

Upon entering the museum, my head immediately tilts back to a 90-degree angle as I take in the vibrancy and elegance of the paint- ings. Seeing these famous pieces in person is breathtaking and runs circles around the old textbooks.

As we make our way to the Sistine chapel, a full silence takes over the space. Wow, I was really in Rome.

We walked back to the tram after another eventful day, our tired legs collapse onto the hard seats of the bus. It is almost time for siesta.

Each day brings on new wonders, and our travels throughout the rest of Europe are soon to come. Tune in for more next week!
Pioneers put breaks on losing skid

Jay Gagliardi
Staff Reporter

If anything is certain in the Northeast Conference, it is that the eventual winner will be the team that can maintain a large lead in the second half.

The recent pattern for a Sacred Heart basketball game is a substantial run to start the game, a large lead going into halftime, a sloppier second half and a much closer victory by the time the buzzer sounds.

It was no different on Friday night when Sacred Heart squared off against LIU in an important game and a chance to kill a two-game losing streak.

Sacred Heart opened Friday night’s game with yet another 10-0 run behind more three point shooting from Lake Granato and Drew Shubik. That seemed to be the focus of the Pioneers offense in the first half, as they shot 8-13 from behind the arc and only scored 10 of their 29 first half points in the paint.

“We prepared more than usual for this game and watched a ton of film. We were actually here until ten o’clock last night,” said Drew Shubik, junior, Stoystown, Pa.

The late night meeting paid off for Shubik as he scored 19 points, shot 80 percent from the floor and had seven of the first 10 points for the Pioneers.

“I love playing here at the Ptn Center, it’s a loud gym, and the crowd is great,” said Shubik.

Another bright spot for the Pioneers in the first half was their stifling defense. The Pioneers caused LIU to turn the ball over once every minute for the first eight minutes of play.

“I thought we gave a good effort on the defensive end. We caused 15 turnovers in the first half which is good anytime you can do it,” said coach Dave Bike.

The Pioneers were able to convert those turnovers into nine more points in the first half. This defense coupled with the eight 3-pointers Sacred Heart was able to put up in the first half, helped them go into halftime up nine despite playing most of the half without starter Joey Henley and leading scorer Jarrid Frye. Both were in early foul trouble.

Foul trouble would be the theme in the second half for the Pioneers. With Frye and Henley on the bench, the Pioneers looked toward their bench for help, but three 3-pointers by Ryan Likite was still not enough to cause LIU to give up.

LIU took advantage of Henley’s absence as they scored 20 points in the paint in the second half.

It wasn’t just Henley and Frye however. Early in the second half, every starter for the Pioneers had at least two fouls. This was telling in LIU’s 37 total free throw attempts.

This was the advantage LIU needed if they were going to mount a comeback victory and play spoiler to SHU’s attempt to snap its two game skid.

The Pioneers knew this ending all too well as no more than a week before SHU blew a 19 point lead on the road to Central Connecticut State University.

Perhaps Sacred Heart was having recurring thoughts of this game as they went six minutes without a field goal and missed opportunities to close out the game.

Fortunately for the Pioneers, LIU was never able to bring the lead to within six due to dismal free throw shooting and it was Henley who came in and scored back to back lay-ups to secure a 80-72 victory and a snap of the team’s two game losing streak.

“I’m glad with the win because every win is very important in an 18 game schedule,” said Coach Dave Bike.

With the win, Sacred Heart remains slightly below Central for first place in conference play.

“We are happy with where we are,” said Luke Granato, junior, Rocky Hill. “I mean we were two possessions away from going 8-1, so this win is big.”

First half run burns Blue Devils

Alyssa Iannotti
Staff Reporter

On Saturday, the women’s basketball team hosted Central Connecticut State University where the Lady Pioneers achieved yet another NEC win by defeating the Blue Devils 77-49.

The first half of the game Sacred Heart received 22 points off of turnovers, 18 more points than Central had received off of turnovers. Turnovers were a big part of the first and second half. “We try to work hard on them in practice,” said Amanda Pape, senior, Stamford “but its good we were turning the ball over now because when crunch time comes we’ll know how to control it.”

In the opening minutes the score was tied 6-6 but the Lady Pioneers ended up outraising the Blue Devils 31-4 over a stretch of 12 minutes. The Pioneers took advantage of poor Central shooting and then went on a 20-point scoring streak. Amanda Pape scored half of the Lady Pioneers points in their 20 point rush.

“We ran the ball better during that spurt and Amanda really got us going,” said coach Ed Swanson. “Our zone defense also caused a lot of problems for them. Tempo is such a big part of our game and we controlled that today.”

The game was out of the Blue Devils grasp by the end of the first half with the Pioneers offense in overdrive, lead by Pape bringing in five more points to carry the Lady Pioneers to a 40-14 lead at the end of the first half.

With 4:08 left in the second half Khadja Cain stole the ball from the Blue Devils and with a pass to Mary Rush and with a lay-up brought the score up to 34-67. The Pioneers kept up their intensity which brought their lead up and ended the game with a win of 49-77. The Pioneers completed the game shooting 52.7% and turned the ball over a season-high 25 times.

Amanda Pape finished the game with nine out of 18 and also had five steals, five rebounds and five assists. Pape’s five steals added to her leading steals total, where she now has 13 for the season, she’s third in the country and has 338 for her career. Jasmine Walker finished with a perfect six out of six with one block and one assist where as Kaitlin Sowinski finished fourth out of ten with five blocks and two assists.

Also, Senior Kerri Burke appeared in her 10th career game on Saturday where she joins Amanda Pape with 111 games and Jasmine Walker with 106 games.

“Tis win was a good bounce back and I’m proud of our aggressiveness. We controlled the defensive end, but that’s not good enough to cause mistakes,” said head coach Ed Swanson

“But, turnovers still are our bugaboo like they’ve been all season.”

Spectrum Sports

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This Pack the Pitt will be one for the ages

There are very few (non-bar related) events on campus that generate the type of excitement that one Saturday in the winter provides here.

Pack the Pitt.

Pack the Pitt has produced memorable moments and record attendance figures for both Sacred Heart basketball and the William H. Pitt Center.

Last season both men and women won over St. Francis (Pa.), and in the process set a record by drawing 1,806 people, including almost 1,100 students.

The origin of Pack the Pitt dates back to the opening of the William H. Pitt Center itself. It has been sponsored by Student Government every year, and has been a doubleheader with the men and women's team.

What most people do not know is where the idea of Pack the Pitt came from.

Student Government president Jim Daly, Hazlet, N.J., does.

"Every club has to do a spirit event, and the original idea was that the clubs would do theirs on the same day to make one huge event that the whole school could get behind," said Daly.

There are many giveaways and opportu-nities for students to have fun, but other than the festivities, there are still only two crucial Northeast Conference games to be played.

The women's team is fighting for the Northeast Conference regular season crown, the #1 seed in the Northeast Conference tournament, and home court advantage throughout the tournament.

Their opponent Saturday is Robert Morris who is 9-2 in conference. Both teams are within striking distance for first place in the league behind Long Island University, and a Pioneer win would secure a tiebreaker over the Colonials after SHU's win in Moon Township, Pa., 72-54 on January 22.

On the men's side, the Pioneers have been in a relative freefall of late. They have lost three of four going into their game versus Quinnipiac tonight.

The men's team opponent Saturday afternoon is Wagner. The Seahawks outlasted SHU on Monday night by 80-76.

SHU sits in a tie for fourth place in the conference. But the Pioneers are just a half game back of Quinnipiac for second place. Wagner sits just a lonely game back of the Pioneers.

The difference between where SHU sits and where Wagner sits is that if the season ended today, the Pioneer would have a home game in the first round of the conference tournament.

Pack the Pitt is coming at the perfect time for both sides. There will be excitement in the air, and even the unveiling of the mysterious "Big Red."

The attendance record will probably be broken this weekend.

But maybe both men's and women's teams records will be going sky high.

You can reach Pat Pickens at pickensp@sacredheart.edu.

SHU dance team 'one big family'

Since my freshman year, I have been as big of a supporter of the sports teams at Sacred Heart. As a fellow athlete, I know what the support of a great crowd can do for a team and how uplifting it can be. As an active member of the Red Wave, I have seen that one group of people is always right next to me, cheering their hardest for their beloved Pioneers.

Flashing their million dollar smiles and moves, this talented group of ladies has caught the attention of all of the Pioneer's fans.

Yes, I am talking about Sacred Heart's very own dance team.

Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting some of the team's members to find out what the team is all about.

Considered a club and not an actual team, the dance team is one of the few teams that is in season all year round. With pre-season starting in August and tryouts and practices running until the end of spring semester, the team has some of the most dedicated and hard working students at Sacred Heart.

"Being a club and not a team, much of our funding for our trips and uniforms has to come out of our own pockets or through fundraising," said team captain Jackie Stephens, a junior and native of Ridgefield Park, N.J.

"Our last fundraiser was a dance-a-thon that raised some money for nationals. We hired a DJ and danced for over two hours, earning money for the team along the way," said Stephens.

The team also donated a portion of the earnings to the House of Roses foundation, a non-profit organization that teaches under privileged children the art of dance.

With a roster of about 34 dancers, the team performs year round at home football and basketball games and also dances at some open houses for the university.

"I saw the team dance at an open house, and tried out this past October," said freshman Kate Poole of Torrington. This group of dancers is made up of girls who have danced all their lives and planned on doing so in college.

"I have danced for 18 years now and I know I wasn't going to go to a university that didn't have a dance team," said junior Meghan Duckworth of Cumberland R.I.

"The dance team is the main reason why I applied to and came to Sacred Heart," said junior Andrea Davenport of Kings Park, N.Y.

Each routine that the team performs is generally a dance that is put together by the team's own members.

"Over the summer, we try and come up with new routines on our own and put them together when we all meet. All our routines are all thought up by two or three of our own girls," said Stephens.

Aside from the team performing on campus, there is also the competition aspect for the team. Each year, a competition squad of about 14 members of the team travel to Daytona Fla. for nationals. This competition squad highlights a year's worth of hard work for the team.

"One of the best parts about this team isn't just the competition, it's the fact that this team is like one big family," said Duckworth.

So come this weekend when the student body Pack the Pitt, be prepared for a real treat when you see these ladies take the floor and show you how all their hard work and dedication has paid off.
Women's hockey falls short at home, 4-3

Erin Howard
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart's women's hockey team took the ice on Friday night against Robert Morris University, but the team fell just short of a comeback with a final score of 4-3, making their record for the season 9-16-1.

The first period of the game was dominated by Robert Morris, scoring three goals within the first 14 minutes. Sacred Heart's senior goalie, Stephanie Boulai, felt the pressure. Racking up a 12-4 shot advantage, the Colonials felt confident that the game would continue in their favor.

Two of the first three goals scored were scored on power plays. Robert Morris' captain, Katheryn Traynor, opened the game with an unassisted slap-shot with 8:48 on the clock and one less Pioneers on the ice.

Several minutes later and again on the powerplay, Colonial forward, Jessica Riley struck the puck in the upper-right corner of the net, putting them in a 2-0 lead. No more than a minute later, Traynor scored another goal for Robert Morris, giving them great leeway to enter the next period with.

Sacred Heart turned on their offensive fire on in the second period. With the score 3-0, sophomore forward, Allie Gillman, took control and knifed through tough defense. She fired the puck straight past the Colonial's goalie for her first unassisted goal of the season. This put the Pioneers on the board and hyped them up for more to come.

The remainder of the second period went by scoreless. Although both teams took numerous shots on the net, neither of them was able to make full contact with the back of the net.

By the third period, Sacred Heart's momentum was high. The women spent a majority of the final period in the Colonial goal zone. With a little more than two minutes remaining on the clock, Pioneer forward, Gina Arnone scored SHU's second unassisted goal.

At the 18:10 mark on the clock, senior captain, Michelle Panelle, Marlboro N.J., fired at the net and brought the game to a surprising 3-3 tie.

As the clock was wound down and overtime seemed near in sight, the Pioneers right defensemen, Devon Gaslin was called for interference.

"I think the penalty was a ridiculous call. Anyone who watched the game could clearly see that I was just doing my job. My penalty was unfair," said Gaslin, junior from Augusta, Maine.

The Colonials wasted no time capitalizing. The women forced their way up the ice and used their power play to score the winning goal. With very little time remaining, Robert Morris went home with a 4-3 win, improving their season record 10-15-2.

The penalties throughout the game were what hurt Sacred Heart. Three of the four goals were scored while Robert Morris had the man advantage. The Pioneers were issued a total of nine penalties amidst the game which clearly affected the outcome.

"The game was frustrating to watch. If it hadn't been for the many penalties Heart received, the game would have totally been in their favor. Personally, I think our women were the better team in this match-up," said Danny Riley, a SHU student and long-time ice hockey fan.

The team has 6 games remaining in the season and after this match-up, they plan to improve their record and finish strong.

Men's volleyball drops two

Kendra Sloan
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart men's volleyball team dropped two consecutive matches to the New Jersey Institute of Technology and the Stevens Tech Ducks.

On Sunday, the team lost to Stevens Tech in four games, raising the Ducks' 10 game win streak. The game scores were 28-30, 30-27, 30-20, 30-20.

The Pioneers were down 26-25 in the first game, but won five out of the next seven points to win the game.

"The team worked very hard today. Against a team like Stevens, experience is key," said coach CJ Emanuelsen.

The game became tied at 27-27 with junior, outside hitter, Brian Rosa up to serve next. He served two consecutive aces to put the Pioneers in the lead with a score of 29-27. They finished with a win over game one and a team hitting percentage of .394.

During the second game both teams rallied back and forth, switching possession every play. Junior, outside hitter, Chris Yantz helped to close the gap, in the score, with a four point serving streak.

In the second game the Pioneers jumped out to a 3-1 lead over the Ducks, who quickly responded bringing them back into the lead with a score of 14-9. The Pioneers came back to tie the game at 21-21, but dropped the last four points losing the second game.

In the third game the Ducks would gain a 3-4 team hitting percentage with leads of 16-7 and 27-19. With a two game lead over the pioneers, the Ducks finished the fourth game with a team hitting percentage of .407.

"We consist of very hard working student-athletes who are growing together day by day. Our intensity is high come match time and the fans give us a huge boost with their incredible support. We will refocus tomorrow [for practice] to come storming back against a good competitor in Stevens College," said Emanuelsen.

Yantz helped the team’s total of 49 kills by getting 13 kills. Senior, outside hitter, Mike Ivers tallied 11 kills, with sophomore, middle, Barry Smith adding 10 kills and five solo blocks. Senior, captain, John Breen also added five solo blocks, along with four assists.

Breen received two awards this week. He was named the Enterprise Rent-A-Car/SHU student-athlete of the week, and EIWA (Eastern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association) Hut Division Player of the Week for his performance in the matches that started their season at 3-0. He accumulated 140 assists between the three matches.

"I’m glad to have received the two honors because it acknowledges the fact that some notoriety has started to come to our school’s volleyball program and especially our team this year," said Breen.

The Pioneers play Harvard University on Friday, February 9th at 8:00 p.m. in the Pit Center. Harvard currently has a record of 0-2 this season.
Men’s ice hockey dogged by UConn

Christopher Armellino
Staff Reporter

The Pioneers failed to penetrate the UConn defense Friday night at the Milford Ice Pavilion. UConn goalie Beau Erikson made 31 saves, causing the Pioneers to fall short 2-1.

Senior Matt Scherer started the Huskies off early, scoring 5:14 into the first period. Sophomore Sean Erikson sent the puck to Scherer, who fired a hard shot past Pioneer goalie Jason Smith of St. Lambert, Quebec, to build a one-goal lead.

UConn followed up with 9:34 left in the period by a shot by Chris Myro. Smith stopped the initial shot, but Charles Sorberg but Myro caught the rebound to flip a shot past the Pioneer goaltender, bringing the game to 2-0.

The first period was not a total loss for the Pioneers however with sophomore Dave Grimson of Mozart, Saskatchewan scoring a goal with 3:31 left in the period. Grimson received a pass from Matt Gordon of Lynnfield, Mass., which he ripped past Erikson for the goal, bringing the score to 2-1.

Despite a series of great opportunities for scoring, this was as close to victory as Sacred Heart would get, as Erikson proved to be a wall in not for the remainder of the game.

Coach Shaun Hannah was very pleased with the attempt put forth by Sacred Heart, but felt that the Pioneers did not live up to their capabilities.

“We worked hard,” said Hannah. “We had great offensive opportunities, we just didn’t execute as well as we were capable of.”

In addition to the Huskies’ defense, the Pioneers also had to struggle through eight penalties, which included a five-minute loss of forward Alexandre Parent, of Boisbriand, Quebec.

“It really threw a kink into our power play,” said Pioneer forward, Bear Trapp, of Regina, Saskatchewan.

According to Trapp, the difficulty against UConn was not surprising. “We always struggle against UConn,” said Trapp.

However, Coach Hannah said this has not broken the Pioneers spirit in themselves or their ability to be successful in upcoming games.

“This is not going to hurt our confidence,” said Hannah. “They worked hard, if they continue like they did tonight, we’ll be ok.”

This is the Huskies’ seventh win over Sacred Heart in the last nine games, as well as their third win on Sacred Heart’s home turf. Sacred Heart still leads the series, 15-11.

Sacred Heart equestrian team to host first head-to-head event

The Sacred Heart University women’s equestrian team will host its first-ever NCAA head-to-head competition when the Stonehill College Skyhawks come to Lion Hill Farm on Sunday, February 11. Competition will start at 8:00 a.m., when the riders compete in over fences jumping and then are tested on the flat (riding pattern).

The Pioneers are hosting the event in preparation for a full slate of NCAA competitions next season. In the past Sacred Heart has competed in both the NCAA and Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Championships, but changes in the rules have taken the Pioneers out of the NCAA Championships in 2007.

The Sacred Heart University equestrian team is entering its 14th year as a member of the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association. Following the NCAA competition, the team will hold a Gymkhana (Games on Horseback) & Swap Meet (Equestrian Flea Market) to begin promptly at 1:00 p.m. Spectators are always welcome at no charge.

Sacred Heart University Athletic Website

Are you a current freshman wanting to get involved during your sophomore year?
Interested in applying for a leadership position but don’t know where to start?

The Annual Leadership Panel

Wednesday February 14
2pm-3pm @ the UC

Learn about leadership opportunities that you can participate in during your sophomore year and how to apply now! Representatives will be on hand to talk about their positions and answer questions.

The Office of Career Development will be hosting over 100 EMPLOYERS hiring students of ALL MAJORS for internships and full-time positions.

Go to our website for details!
www.sacredheart.edu/career.cfm

REMEMBER your resume MUST be APPROVED to participate.
For approval, send your resume to CareerDev@sacredheart.edu

(SPRING 2007 INTERNSHIP & CAREER FAIR
Date: Thursday, February 22, 2007
Time: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The Office of Career Development will be hosting over 100 EMPLOYERS hiring students of ALL MAJORS for internships and full-time positions.

Go to our website for details!
www.sacredheart.edu/career.cfm

REMEMBER your resume MUST be APPROVED to participate.
For approval, send your resume to CareerDev@sacredheart.edu

(Don’t miss our speaker series during the fair!
Get practical networking, interview and workplace tips from experts at GE, New York Life and Positive Impact!)
Amanda Pape led a big first half run that helped secure an NEC victory and keep her team in the running for the regular season title.

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Both Jason Smith and Stefan Drew couldn't stop UConn from scoring in a home and home weekend sweep of the Pioneers.

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