

Senior Section

Senior Section was compiled by Kerry Freel, Editor-in-Chief, questions or comments can be directed to kerry-freel@sacredheart.edu

I Don't Wanna Grow Up, I'm A Toys R Us Kid

Where Seniors Are Headed After Graduation

Everyone remembers hearing the Toys 'R Us song a million times when we were young, but now that we're graduating, we've grown up! It's time to pick a career, or go onto graduate school and then find a career.

Everyone is following his or her own path after walking down the campus field at graduation together. Some students will move on to other states, some will remain in the greater Fairfield area, and some may even travel abroad.

The majority of SHU seniors intend to live at home with their families or are continuing in a masters program at Sacred Heart.

"I'm going to move home and live off my parents for as long as they will let me and from there I will go wherever the wind takes my sails," said Patrick McMahon.

"I plan on going home for probably at least a year, waitressing and making some money so I can eventually head out to LA and make it [in] the film industry, either producing, writing or maybe even directing. Big dreams, but I have faith that I can make it," Amy Lavoie said.

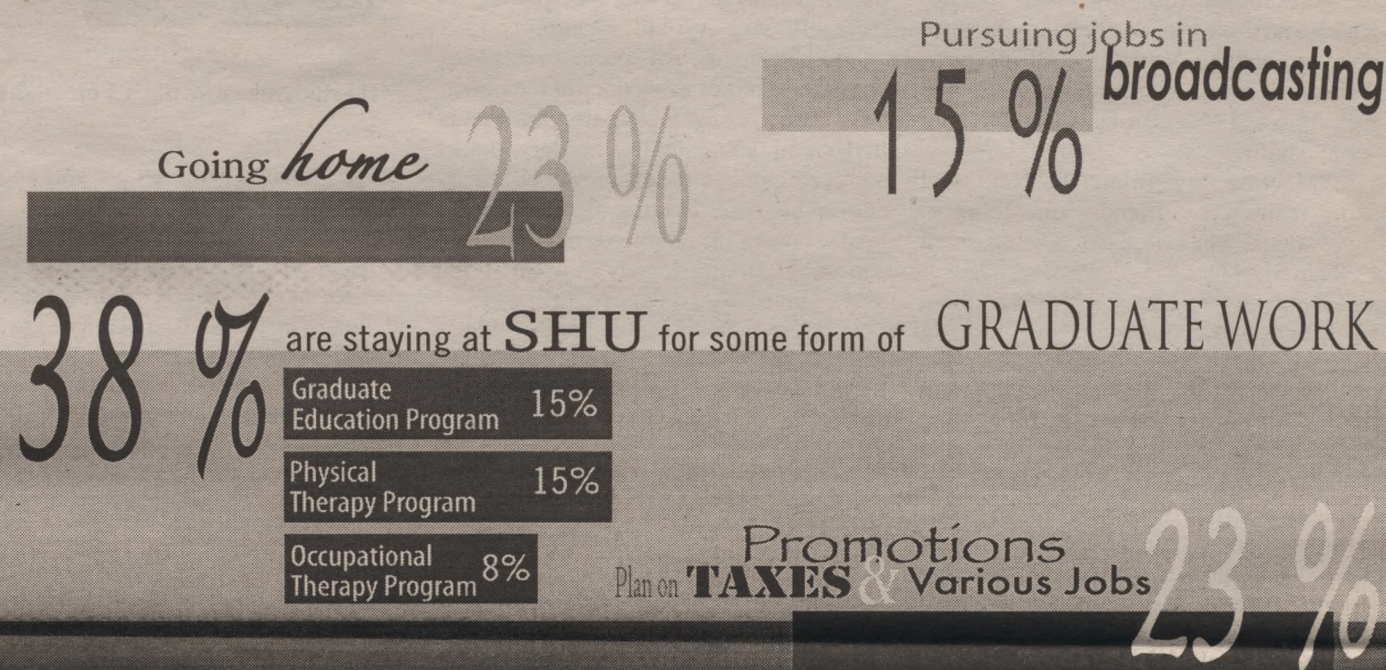
"I'm living at home then hopefully going abroad," said Kristin Masiluk.

"Grad School here at SHU beginning this summer in Education; hopefully working at a nursery school beginning in September," Nicole M. Andreazza said.

"I am staying at Sacred Heart University to obtain my Masters in Education. I hope to one day work in administration on the collegiate level," said Victoria Primiano.

"I am planning on staying at SHU for grad school in occupational therapy," explained Colleen Murphy.

WHERE ARE SHU SENIORS GOING AFTER GRADUATION?



*STUDENTS WERE POLLED VIA E-MAIL OVER THE PAST MONTH

The Spectrum/AMANDA BETTIS

SHU seniors were polled to find out what their plans were for after graduation.

"Next year I will be right back here for PT school," said Siobhan O'Hagan.

"I am staying here at Sacred Heart to continue on in the Physical Therapy Program," said Jodi Janda.

Many SHU students are going into occupations involving sports in some fashion.

Katie Trindall plans on "living in Fairfield and working at the WWE until I find something better or start my own music video production company."

Jody Baulanger plans on, "working a full-time job in sports. [I am] currently

applying to NASCAR, AFL teams and AHL teams, and venues."

Fishing is a sport, and Nina Willette hopes to be involved in promoting a huge summer fishing event this year.

"[I will] hopefully [be] working at the Bluefish doing PR and Promotions," said Willette.

Katie Atkins, current Spectrum Sports editor, hopes to keep up with sports and report the scores live on Television someday!

"I will be interning at Comcast Sportsnet this summer and will be getting my

Masters in Broadcast Telecommunications and Mass Media at Temple University in Philadelphia in the fall. One day I will be a sports broadcaster!" Atkins said.

Megan O'Connor is also pursuing a job in broadcasting or some other form of journalism.

"Going to grad school to study Taxes!" is Pete Kuczynski's plan. But he has a strong attachment to the college schedule. "I don't feel like working 50 weeks a year with only 2 weeks vacation yet. I won't let them take my summer vacation away from me!"

Worst Freshman Year Memory

Freshman year is a rough year for a lot of students. For many, it is their first time living "on their own" without parents setting parameters and curfews. Students are faced with a sometimes daunting freedom, new faces, and a new environment.

Victoria Primiano thought the worst memory from her freshman year was adjusting to college life, transitioning.

"Coming to this school and not knowing anyone was unpleasant but as I settled in I began to love Sacred Heart University," Primiano said.

Kristin Masiluk said her worst memory was, "Missing my mom."

Katie Trindall didn't have trouble balancing her workload and social life, but she had a bad bunk bed experience freshman year.

Her worst memory is, "falling out of my top bunked bed and landing on Kate

D's Doc Marten. That bruise on my tail bone didn't go away for weeks!" Trindall exclaimed.

Trindall woke up with a start after falling out of her bunk bed freshman year, while Megan O'Connor slept in on a day she shouldn't have.

O'Connor's worst memory is, "waking up late for my first [cross country] meet, missing the bus, and having to find a ride to the race, the first of school."

Colleen Murphy remembers with disgust, "The numerous fire drills at 4 a.m." freshman year.

"My roommate for the first month... then I got a new one and she still lives with me," said Jodi Janda.

Crystal Cassetori has a bad memory involving not a person but a creature!

"I dropped my fish tank on my laptop and destroyed my computer... but the fish

lived!"

While some students failed to get enough sleep because of sleep interruptions, some students remember the horror of getting an unjustified failing grade in a class!

Jody Baulanger explains that during her freshman year, "second semester - my EN101 teacher failed the entire class cause she didn't like us, needless to say she is not here anymore, but that was the first time, and the only time, I have ever failed in any class."

Amy Lavoie had a rough freshman year. She has multiple unpleasant memories, "Freshman year had a lot of rumors. My worst memories are those from first semester of that year, my computer was stolen, my first roommate kicked me out, I got [into] a bad car accident, I landed in the hospital with alcohol poisoning.

"But the rumors that flew from the events leading up to these were the worst. I guess you have to expect that from such a small school."

Patrick McMahon's worst memory happened to someone else, "Definitely when my RA was fired. He was so much fun and is the reason all my friends from freshman year are still very close friends."

Some students remember all the water troubles in the freshman dorms during the 2000-2001 academic year with disgust.

Nicole M. Andreazza's worst freshman year memory was, "having the water shut off all day because someone flushed their underwear down the toilet. Yuck!"

"Taking a shower in the dark because someone turned the lights off," Pete Kuczynski remembers.

Seniors' Favorite SHU Memories

Ah memories... From the food at Flik, to late night study sessions to Senior Pub nights, over the four years many memories have been made.

A lot of seniors said their memories from Sacred Heart would be incomplete without their friends. When asked what their favorite memories from SHU were, here's what some seniors had to say...

"Meeting the best friends that I will have for the rest of my life and finding out what I want to do with the rest of my life," said Katie Trindall.

"Some of my favorite memories from my time here at Sacred Heart include late night talks and shopping with my roommate of four years, Kacey (I will miss you so much!). I will also never forget the great times with my other roomies Kate (who I have been friends with since orientation!) and Nancy and all my girls, and my bowling team, of course. Good luck John and Meg... love you guys!" said Katie Atkins.

"Meeting my future husband and some really great friends, and going to Innovations when it existed," answered Colleen Murphy.

Amy Lavoie had a lot to say about her friends and major, which are her main SHU memories.

"Some of my favorite memories are those with my friends. Over four years, I've found a great crew. Ones that kept me here on the three occasions when I was about to transfer, ones that kept my head on straight and put me to bed after a rough night, ones that have been there at every waking moment even when they weren't needed.

"My favorite memories with them are at places like the Golden Star, where we could kick back and just be in each other's company with a few beers and good conversation. I have treasured every moment that I've spent with these people, especial-

ly my roommate Jill and my friend Julie. Senior year meant a lot of quality time in the editing room as a Media Studies major, and some of those nights were hilarious. Gordy Milne and I would spend endless hours in there, and are still doing so. The night our Video 2 class makes our B Roll is going to be one of the best nights ever," Lavoie said.

"My very first night at SHU, I accidentally set my alarm clock to go off at 3 am. When my roommate Grace didn't kill me, I knew it was going to work out well. I also competed at the IHSA National Horse Show my sophomore year, wrestled in chocolate pudding freshman year, went to Montreal for spring break, had whipped cream fights, played midnight football... there are so many I can't even think of them all!" said Crystal Cassetori.

Other seniors had special events stick out in their minds as wonderful memories.

"Participating in the first edition of SHUvivor, going to the mystery dinner and seeing one of the characters put candy corn in his nose, meeting my best friends, [and] chasing the shuttle through the stop and shop parking lot at 12am (it didn't stop)," said Jody Baulanger.

"Sacred Heart holds many memories for me including Greek Weekends, Spring Weeks, RA Training, and I am sure Senior Week will be great!" said Victoria Primiano.

"Beta Delta Phi winning Best Greek Drama 2001. Random trips at night to Truck Stop, Wendy's, and I-95 McDonald's. Park Ridge Hamburger Fest Spring 2003. 'Club Innovations' freshman year and the song by Nelly, 'If you want to go and take a ride with me...,' SET trip to NYC to see 'Cabaret' with Jen Shea, Lauren Cantillo and Amy Bova," Nicole M. Andreazza answered.

During Megan O'Connor's four year experience, she most enjoyed "Pub Nights



The Spectrum/ ROBERT TRENSKE

SHU students enjoying a Pub Night at the Outpost.

at the Outpost, being on a team, and Mr. SHU."

Kristin Masiluk remembers, "Divine Terpsichore 2000-01, getting disqualified for having pyrotechnics in our show at Finals in Milwaukee (battery operated toys)." Another one of Masiluk's favorite memories is the procrastination train, "Me and my roommate and our midterm/finals procrastination train... picking up people as we went adding to our line, dancing around until we could concentrate again and get back to work!"

While some people struggled with adjusting to life freshman year, Patrick McMahon recalls his first year at SHU with fondness.

"Some of my favorite memories are living in the freshman dorms and having fun on our hall every night playing ball and hanging out with everyone on the 4th floor in West Hall," McMahon said.

Nina Willette enjoyed absorbing the campus' setting by "sitting on the bench outside the library and watching the snow fall on the quad."

"My favorite memories would have to be crossing into Nu Epsilon Omega freshman year, being named Greek of the Year sophomore year, getting crowned Greek Weekend Queen junior year, being President of Nu Ep senior year, and one crazy night sophomore year spent with Nu Ep and Lambda in an Avalon closet!" said Siobhan O'Hagan.

"Freshman year and all the crazy times we had in South Hall!, Living in PR 24 F last year with the boys next door. All the friends I have made along the way and the fun times we have had together," said Jodi Janda.

Everyone who walks on the campus field May 16 will carry away not only a diploma but a plethora of memories.

Car Decorations: The Change From High School Senior Year to College Senior Year

Compare your car's interior and exterior decorations as a SHU senior as compared to when you were a senior in high school.

Most SHU students have to deal with the chore each semester of getting a parking decal from Public Safety, have to fill up their tanks with gas (NOT Diesel, remember that!) on a weekly basis, and are on the never-ending search for an ideal parking spot near campus.

"My new car has 5 different SHU parking stickers!" said Nina Willette.

But while cars cause headaches and hassles, from fender-benders to parking

tickets, cars can offer students artistic expression through their blank canvas.

Go ahead; walk through any of the parking lots on campus. You'll see cars painted with stuffed animals, a wide-array of stickers, decals, beads, air freshners, CDs hanging from rearview mirrors and more.

Seniors were asked to compare their car's interiors and exteriors when they were seniors in high school compared to being seniors in college. Two seniors had "beastly" cars in high school.

"All I have now is my Sacred Heart Sticker on the back window. In high

school I had a crappy car, so I would rather not talk about that beast," said Katie Trindall.

"In high school I drove an 88 Buick century wagon, 'the beast'. That car was kept fairly clean, but had a unique wet grass smell to it. My current car is a 99 VW Jetta. Thanks to the wonderful state of Connecticut's potholes and uneven roadways, the exterior of my car looks like I drove through a war zone. The inside is fairly clean...I'm kinda a neat freak," explained Jody Baulanger.

"I drove a different car when I was in high school, but I'm minimalist... the only decorations I have are a license plate frame and a sticker on the outside and a crystal and my rosary hanging from the rear view mirror. The only thing I kept from my other car is my 'car goddess', a stuffed fish that sits on my dashboard," said Crystal Cassetori.

Pete Kuczynski is ready for a new set of wheels.

"[I drive] the same car I had in High School, I'm surprised it lasted that long. Hopefully it'll die in time for me to get a new car as a graduation present!" Kuczynski said.

"I didn't get a car until junior year of college, but now I'm proud to say that my '88 Mercury Sable has shamrock shaped Mardi Gras beads from the Page

hanging from the rear view mirror, and a sticker on the back windshield with my sorority letters," said Siobhan O'Hagan.

Many seniors explained that while they used to have clean cars in high school, the same has not been true for the college years.

"When I was a senior in high school, my car was so clean. I had just gotten my car and really took care of it. Now, I throw my garbage in the back seat, clothes and textbooks in the trunk and keep candy in the ashtray. College students know it's all about living out of your car," said Nicole M. Andreazza.

"I kept my car immaculately clean in high school, now it is littered with trash that people leave in there, especially Flik trash," Patrick McMahon said.

Speaking of Flik, Amy Lavoie has some souvenirs from everyone's favorite eatery in her car as well.

"I had a nice car for a while in between high school and now. But I'm back to the garbage box. My car in high school was loud and old and it was completely covered on the back with random stickers. Now, the only thing is my JHill parking sticker and the 18 bottles of water and Powerade that have mounted up over the past few months," said Lavoie.



The Spectrum/ ROBERT TRENSKE

A Sacred Heart decal on a SHU student's car with the sky in the reflection.

Seniors Share Their Favorite Classes & Quotes

"My production classes and my theory classes with Jim were my favorite classes here at SHU," said Katie Trindall.

Trindall's favorite quote is, from a professor she had in EN 011 Freshman year, "You can use it as a spring board."

"Sport Venue and Event Management with Dr. Josh Shuart. Hands on work, with trips to local venues combined with basic text," explained Jody Baulanger.

"CJ Wang, a former business teacher here and my Macroeconomics teacher

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*You can use it as a
spring board*

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*Katie Trindall's
EN 011 Professor*

sophomore year, had many memorable quotations....among them "Eesn't eet?!?!?" *waving hands wildly*, explained Jody Baulanger.

"My favorite class was Philosophy 101 with Dr. Papa. It was funny to hear him make fun of the world we live in, although it didn't make sense sometimes," said Pete Kuczynski.

"Favorite class at SHU: Religion 101 with Taylor and Marketing 261 with Maresco," said Nicole M. Andreazza.

"Hands down Celtic Religious Traditions with Dr. Brooks in Dublin, Ireland," said Patrick McMahon.

McMahon's favorite quote is from a non-SHU member, but was told to him from someone from Sacred Heart.

"Perhaps my best years are gone... but I wouldn't want them back. Not with the fire in me now," Samuel Beckett. A very important person to me gave me that quote and it is a constant reminder of all they taught me," said McMahon.

"I took Profiling Violent Crimes with Professor Lavery. It was awesome and I highly recommend it!" said Crystal Cassetori.

Victoria Primiano liked many of her classes.

"That is a hard decision to make. Although I loved Anthropology, I found Philosophy with Dr. Papa really interesting, and also Political Science with Dr.

Rose," said Primiano.

Primiano didn't have a favorite quote exactly from SHU, but she has a new outlook on life because of Sacred Heart.

"After my whole experience at Sacred Heart University I have learned a few things, one is to take risks and do what you can to make an impact. I also learned that college is a foundation for the rest of our lives. What we do here can potentially build for a sturdy ground in which we live on. This is why I am appreciative that I got as involved as I did," Primiano said.

"There are too many to choose from. Andrew Miller, Greg Golda, Jim Castonguay, and Louise Spence have been the greatest teachers that I could have asked for, and I have thoroughly enjoyed every class I have taken with them," said Amy Lavoie.

Lavoie had not only classes that impacted her life at SHU, but also a teacher and coach who really influenced her SHU experience for the best.

"Louise Spence has been my mentor since freshman year. She has taught me a lot about how I should live my life. She has always looked out for me like a mother away from home and I can never thank her enough. Although things have changed over four years, my coach,

"Laura Korutz, has instilled things in me that will always stay. I should be on time, be dedicated, be tough, and never

give half the effort when I know I have my whole heart to give. My experience with SHU lacrosse has been amazing," Lavoie

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Eesn't eet?!

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*Jodi Baulanger's
Macroeconomics Professor*

said.

"Television Production with Greg Golda," Megan O'Connor said.

"Dr. Pavone's Health Psych class, interesting topics, hilarious stories, great professor..." said Siobhan O'Hagan.

"EN 101 because it was before all my English classes got complicated with too much work!" said Kristin Masiluk.

"My favorite classes to take were Psychology classes," said Colleen Murphy.

Favorite Thing To Do Around SHU

When SHU seniors were asked about their favorite SHU activities, the answers were really scattered. Many people agreed that senior pub nights and Mr. SHU were awesome events, but students enjoyed what they put into activities on campus.

"I gave tours all four years here and I found that to be one of the most rewarding experiences, not only to impact someone's life, but also to come back the next fall and help them move in and see them on campus," said Jody Baulanger.

For sorority members Victoria Primiano and Nicole Andreazza, among other SHU activities, Greek Life definitely accounted for some good times.

"Being a part of Greek Senate has definitely been my favorite activity. I love taking an active role in Greek Life through the Senate and I loved having the opportunity to meet so many people in different Greek organizations," Primiano explained.

Siobhan O'Hagan also loved Greek Life during her four years at SHU.

Her favority activity?

"Greek Life! (and finally being able to drink legally in the Outpost)," O'Hagan said.

"Being a part of Greek Life and going to the SHU basketball games," Andreazza said.

Andreazza is not alone in her love of going to games as Patrick McMahon will vouch for. "Definitely tailgating for men's volleyball games and then heckling the other team during the game," is one of McMahon's favorite SHU activities.

"I loved going to hockey games and watching the team fight," said Pete Kuczynski.

Some people loved watching the Pioneer teams, others were Pioneer team members and enjoyed those activities most!

"I loved riding on the Equestrian Team and singing and dancing in Showchoir and University Choir," said Crystal Cassetori.

"It would be too obvious to say that my participation in lacrosse has been the best. It's been a great run for four years, but in the end, it was completely bittersweet. My

favorite activity, outside of the bars, has been the time spent in my major. TV productions in the studio, both last year and this year, as well as all the time in the editing room have been my favorites. The hands-on work has been an invaluable learning experience, not to mention, a lot of laughs and tons of fun," said Amy Lavoie.

"My favorite SHU activity was being a part of the women's bowling team. At times, all the traveling and competing was grueling, but all the good times and memories I will take from this experience have been well worth it. I will miss you all... good luck in the future! We got the H*E*A*R*T!" said Katie Atkins.

Megan O'Connor's favorite activities included, "being on the cross country and track teams."



The Spectrum/ ROBERT TRENSKE

Greek Life was the activity of choice for many.

What Will Be Missed Most

"My friends, Ghettoventions, and the college life," said Katie Trindall.

"The security blanket of education while being able to do whatever I wanted. My friends mean a great deal to me and we are scattering across the country after graduation. Some for jobs some for grad school, but nonetheless I will not have the comfort of seeing them at my leisure.

"I hope that we can manage to keep in touch and maybe all get together at least once a year in some central location for a weekend of fun," said Jody Baulanger.

"I will miss the faculty and staff that has worked so hard to get me through my four years," said Pete Kuczynski.

"Seeing everyone I know in FLIK & Hawley. Late night meetings with Beta Delta Phi. When I lived in East, going to mini-flik every night and eating mozzarella sticks on the floor with the roommate," said Nicole M. Andreazza.

"Mostly the day-to-day non-sense. Finding a great spot in commuter, chicken Caesar wraps for dinner, finding the elevator on your floor, getting into a closed class, an outline of the day in your inbox," said Nina Willette.

"I think I will most miss sitting in Flik for hours on end, people watching and talking to anyone and everyone who passes through," said Siobhan O'Hagan.

"I will miss the people. Being so

close to so many friends is going to be the hardest thing to get over. I will miss seeing all the familiar faces," said Patrick McMahon.

"The people and the atmosphere, I am going to miss not seeing everyone everyday anymore," said Victoria Primiano.

"I will not be leaving SHU so I won't have to worry about missing the actual school, but I will miss my friends as many of them are graduating and going to graduate school elsewhere or working," said Jodi Janda.

"By far, I will miss my friends the most. Not just my immediate crew and all the great times I'll never remember with the people I'll never forget, but all

the fun times I've had with the fellow students in the MS major. We have come together and bonded over late night food runs, staring at editing screens, building sets, and giggling on film shoots in a way that can't be equaled. We all share a similar passion and, who knows, maybe we'll all see each other's names in the credits some day. Thanks for a great four years everyone!" said Amy Lavoie.

"My roommate, I never thought I would like sharing my space with someone else but now when she's no there... I miss her!" Kristin Masliuk exclaimed.

"My friends and the cool teachers," said Colleen Murphy.

Many Thanks, Hugs And Smiles

It's Been Real!
Kerry Freel

This is the sappy article you knew was coming all year long! It's Spectrum tradition at this point. Every editor always writes a closing article thanking people who helped out along the way.

My Family

First of all, I wouldn't be at Sacred Heart without them, and I surely wouldn't be able to afford it, without my parents. You two are wonderful in every way, even though our house is brighter than a tanning salon with all the bright light bulbs... (Better than being a dim bulb!) Thanks for running my laptop up to me when I left it at home, for visiting me freshman year when I felt homesick, for encouraging and inspiring me to do great things, for teaching me to love reading at a young age and for helping me work my dilemmas over the phone!

Thanks to my brothers Mike and Chris and their wives, Pam and Erie, for always asking how everything was going, for giving me great and sometimes goofy gifts unexpectedly, for that massive vat of 3 kinds of popcorn during finals freshman year, and for talking with me about college experiences to give me more perspectives. Thanks to my adorable cousins, Connor, Caitlin, Michael, and Matthew; it was always a joy to get away from the college chaos and baby-sit you guys! You remind me of a time without worry and have always brought a smile to my face. Thanks to your parents, Patrice and Richie and Jeannine and Michael for talking to me about college life and for having me stay for long weekends.

Grandma Bea, you are such a character, you always make me laugh and cheered me up when something made me feel blue. I love your red hair and your motto to always get everything on sale! Grandma Margie, I love your calm, kind nature and your whole outlook on life. You are such a joy and asset to everyone who meets you. I love you both so much and I'm so blessed to have you in my life! And Auntie! You have always been supportive of my writing and helped me gain such a greater understanding of life, the world, and people, through letting me travel around the world with you, from Europe to Hawaii to South America, we are globe trotters! Thanks for everything and for calling me on the weekends!

Hometown Friends

And a special thanks to my friends from high school for making college breaks awesome. Thanks to Lauren, my Bed Bath and Beyond buddy. "Please feel free to continue shopping or browsing as our registers will remain open for your shopping convenience," is what we said to customers but we really thought, "everyone get out NOW!". We had fun with our late night chats about homework and work and made spending money together!

High School Teachers

To Mrs. Weishaus, my high school newspaper adviser, you are such a wonderful person and high school would have been so much more difficult and less enjoyable without you! Thank you for all of your hard work, tips, encouragement, and inspiration. And a special thanks to the English teachers I had throughout my life, Mrs. Danahy, Mrs. Blitzer, Ms. McDonald, Ms. DeNoyelles, Mitch, Mrs. Shepard,

and Ms. McMahon for making me think in new ways and for having such a passion for authors and education!

My SHU Cousins

And of course, there are so many people to thank from Sacred Heart! First off, I'd like to thank my two cousins, Allison and Jonathan Tonner for talking to me and my family about Sacred Heart so I could learn of its existence and for telling me about the "hot spots" and do's and don'ts at SHU.

The SHU Community, Especially...

I'd like to thank all of the Deans on campus, especially Dean Bozzone and Dean Weilk. Dean Bozzone, it was great to have you in freshman seminar, and then work with you on the flipside as a junior mentor too. Dean Weilk, you were a great help to the Spectrum throughout the whole time I've been at SHU.

Spectrum Advisers

Thank you to Dr. Debbie Danowski, our newspaper's adviser for the past three years. Ever since the class and the paper joined forces, being a section editor has been a joy, the current and future editors don't have a clue how easy they have it, and that's thanks to you. Thanks for pushing me to get things done efficiently and for sharing the common goal with me of making the Spectrum the best it can be! There's been a lot to deal with this year, but I think things are at a more productive point than they were in the past and they are sure to only improve from here. Best of luck with next year's staff.

Thanks to Joe Nagy, the Spectrum's adviser during my freshman year. Joe, you were always SO calm at our meetings and always had good ideas. You were very encouraging and I always enjoyed your stories about your journalism experiences. A special thanks to Cindy Simoneau who made my internship in 2003 wonderful and who gave us lots of suggestions on improving the Spectrum this semester. And thank you for setting up a panel of guest speakers for us! We were very lucky to have a person who experiences journalism first-hand every day at the CT Post here at our school to guide us on our merry way.

Spectrum Staff, Past & Present

Of course, many thanks to my editors, thank you, thank you, thank you! For all of our jokes and experiences in Dallas and for always being responsible for your sections. To Katie Sports, Katie Features, Pat and Mark, thanks! And to my right-hand men, Ryan and Rob, who made graphics and pictures possible and who goofed off with me when I needed a break, thanks so much guys! Thanks for the cartoons Pat Reinhart. Great job Lindsey Gershkoff and Jess McCann, who took on one of the most stressful and uncharted Spectrum positions this year- advertising manager. Special thanks to the committee chairs, Nadia, Ashleigh, Jill and Jess for cracking jokes in the office and getting a phenomenal amount done even though you didn't get stipends!

To Spectrum editors past who were nice to me, even though I wasn't a senior like the rest of you, like Kathleen Haughey, John the A&E editor my sophomore year, Chrissy Tantillo, Keri Blair, and Elaine McCauley (just to name a few!).

Tom, Jacinda, & Angela

Thanks to Tom Wuestkamp, Jacinda

Felix, and Angela Hartmann for always having positive attitudes and for being awesome advisers on the media conferences in Florida and Dallas!

SHU Friends

To my SHU friends... I can't list you all here, we already added four pages this week! You know who you are, thanks. "Two-n-Jenn" my roommate, you have made my college experience so wonderful! We can always talk our problems out and share our annoyances and joys. Thanks for always listening to my crazy stories and for being such a great friend and roommate. Thanks to all the Amerisuite girls, Jess, Susan, Sarah, Laura, and Jenn Webb, for hotel fun this year with free breakfasts, study sessions, and movie nights in Susan and Jess' room!

Thanks Lana Barnes, for always listening to my editor stories and relating with your editor experiences, and for all the chats in both Spectrum and Prologue offices. Thanks Kristin for helping me lay out the news section this semester and for having a cheery attitude! Allison Pohorlyo, thanks for all of our chats, for the CMB sessions and for the good times in Dallas. And thanks Melissa Hoffmann for all the fun times and for learning to "walk short" for my sake.

The English Department

And of course I'd like to thank the English department at Sacred Heart, all of its professors collectively. Particularly though, some professors really pushed me to try new avenues of thought and delve deeper into thinking than I ever thought I wanted to think! Dr. Young, I'm graduating and you've been my adviser, so we must have done something right! Thank you so much, and I enjoyed having you as both a professor and adviser! Dr. Cain, I learned so much in your classes. I know we're supposed to learn in every class, but through Introduction to the English Language, I found myself realizing that I love learning about how children learn language and learn to read by studying Chomsky and now know how I want to focus my future!

Thank you Dr. Curtis for giving me a new outlook on American History through Early American Literature. I have to admit, I had some doubts entering that course because I don't usually enjoy studying history, but I really found myself enjoying the authors we studied and getting a better perspective of life in early America. Dr. Miller, thank you for all of your work with the English Club and for all of your passion as a teacher, it was great to experience. Thanks to Ms. Mucha, my EN012 teacher, who always kept things light and fun in class, which made my college transition easier.

Dr. Pavone

And thanks to my psychology professor, Dr. Pavone, who ruled my life this semester by having me in class twice a day, twice a week! I'm so lucky I got to have you for three classes at SHU; thank you for your upbeat attitude and interesting stories.

Spectrum Readers

In conclusion, I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the Spectrum this year, either by submissions or simply by reading stories in the hall so I could smile as I passed you, that really kept me going some days! Best of luck to everyone next year and in future endeavors.

No Thanks

Kerry Freel
Editor-in-Chief

I feel it is only fair to give the reader the full story. Instead of just giving the sunshine, candy-coated article about all the people that are responsible for my successful completion of college and my year as editor, I've also decided to give you another angle of the story.

I really enjoy reading poetry, but I was shocked a few years ago to pick up a book of poetry by E.E. Cummings and read why it was titled what it was. The following is a small excerpt from the Introduction to Cummings' book, written by Richard S. Kennedy, "The declaration of 'No Thanks' which Cummings placed at the beginning of the book lists the publishers who turned him down- their names arranged carefully to form the shape of a funeral urn."

I found this powerful, Cummings was not out to complain in response to his rejections, he took the high road and vented with an intellectual approach, through carefully placed words.

While I have not been repeatedly rejected with a novel pitches, I have encountered obstacles in life that made being editor, the road to it, and college in general a challenge!

I daresay the first time I ever realized someone didn't like me was back when I was five, in kindergarten. Who was the person who didn't like me? My teacher! I have a big age gap between my brothers and I, so basically they were teens when I was a toddler. I was five going on 15. My kindergarten teacher criticized the way I spoke, made me write the letters of the alphabet like a million times, and always got mad if I asked a question or corrected her in class.

From first grade on, everything was good, teachers were supportive, until eighth grade. I still remember one poem that I wrote, that we turned in for grades (how you grade free verse is beyond me) but my teacher commented with the dreaded red pen, "I don't follow." As if it were my fault she didn't understand my way of thinking!

I've learned that you can't please everyone, you have to please yourself. While reading through other college newspapers this year, I saw a lot of papers have a section where they do what Fairfield's newspaper, the Mirror, does, a "cheers" and "boos" kind of section where they list good and bad things around campus or the time frame or anything at all. So I've incorporated this style into the Spectrum here. I've successfully finished out this year, but no thanks to any of the following:

To people who gave me such unnecessary worries over insignificant things... to people who lack common courtesy... to people who I e-mailed who never got back to me... to all the publicists who declined my interview requests with celebrities... to people who cursed in their quotes, stories, submissions... to snow and ice for making me late to classes... to people missing deadlines... to salespeople calling my house early in the mornings on my vacations... to all the drivers that practically ran us sophomores over while we lived at East while trying to cross Park Ave... to the horrible construction on the Merritt Parkway and on 287... to the lack of parking at our school... to people who think the world revolves around them... to having to wait for Public Safety to open the old Spectrum office when someone kept the key by mistake sophomore year... AND finally, to all the people who wandered into the office this year wanting to use our STAPLER, when I would always hope they were coming in with pictures or story ideas or quotes.