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April 2, 2009 Volume 25 Issue 20



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50 Cent: Out of the club, into the Pitt

Lacey Gilleran
Staff Reporter

He has written books, starred in movies, created video games, made an original clothing line, and has his own Vitamin Water flavor. Oh yeah, and he is a multi-platinum rapper.

His name? Curtis Jackson, but you know him as 50 Cent.

On March 27, Jackson performed at Sacred Heart University in the William H. Pitt Center to a crowd of 3,000 screaming and dancing fans. He also brought along the whole G-Unit, or Guerilla Unit, with rappers Lloyd Banks and Tony Yayo.

The group played a set of 20 minutes over the hour they were supposed to play and brought the entertainment as they spent their time moving across the stage and paying attention to everyone in the crowd. They played their top hits like "Disco Inferno," "P.I.M.P.," and "I Get Money," while also introducing some new material off his new album.

Jackson is from New York and broke into the music scene in 2003 with his album "Get Rich or Die Tryin'."

This is when he said he knew he had made it big.

"In that first week of 'Get Rich or Die Tryin,' selling 822,000 records, I just knew," said Jackson.

In an exclusive interview with Jackson after the concert, he revealed that he enjoys performing, "any song that the crowd gets into," but currently likes to perform his newest song "I Get It In."

Jackson had this to say about anyone trying to break into the music business: "Spend the time to make the full presentation. Grow into yourself and take advantage of other artists being out there online."

He went on to say that people in the business are constantly telling individuals to be "politically correct," but to make sure that the individual is being true to who they really are.

Recently, Jackson released a new track with Eminem entitled "Crack A Bottle."

"He offered me the opportunity to do what I am doing today."

"It feels great," said Jackson, when discussing working with Eminem again, "We did four tracks together, so you can hear two on his

album and two on mine."

Even though making music is his first priority, Jackson has big dreams for the future.

"I want to make a hit film. I don't have to star in it, I just want to write, produce, or direct one," said Jackson. However, for the current time being, all his attention is on the music.

The excitement was overwhelming throughout the student body before and after the concert.

Sophomore Mo Reilly was one of the 3,000 to attend the concert and was not disappointed with the show.

"I thought it was a great time," said Reilly. "I liked how he threw his watch into the crowd. I wish I caught it."

Jackson gave everyone in attendance a surprise as he tossed not only his leather jacket into the crowd at the beginning of the performance, but also his watch right off his wrist at the end of the show.

Some students were in awe of Jackson and were excited just to see him.

Sophomore Lindsey Greenlee had a good time at the concert being in the second row from the stage. She was one of the lucky few

See SPRING on page 3...



The Spectrum/Nicole Giglia

Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson performs in Sacred Heart's William H. Pitt Center on Fri. March 27

LAPTOP PROGRAM TO BECOME EXTINCT

Therese O'Shea
Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University's mobile computing program is about to undergo some serious changes.

Currently, all full-time undergraduate students at Sacred Heart are issued new laptops in the beginning of their freshman and junior years. However, by the fall of 2010, students will be expected to purchase their own laptops.

At a time when the global financial crisis is hitting universities as a result of the economy, there are better ways to utilize the school's funds, given the role of the program and the fluctuating cost of computers, according to a manager in the mobile computing program.

"The University has recognized that the current program has little impact in the decision process students make when they decide to go to

college," said Shirley Canaan, director of Administrative Computing, "and laptops today are becoming cheaper and increasingly more common. So the question became, 'is there a better way in which to spend this rather large sum of money?'"

According to Canaan, the consensus was "yes, there is."

Canaan said that the changes will begin starting in the next academic year.

"In Fall 2009, all incoming students will receive one laptop that they'll use while they are enrolled at the University. We will support the laptop for four years without having to refresh it," said Canaan. "In Fall 2010, all incoming students will be expected to bring their own laptops based on a model and configuration that we would set and support."

Canaan says that the laptop program will not change for current students.

See LACK on page 4...



Photo Courtesy of Tracy Deer-Mirek

Fans pack the Pitt Center for the 50 Cent concert last Friday.

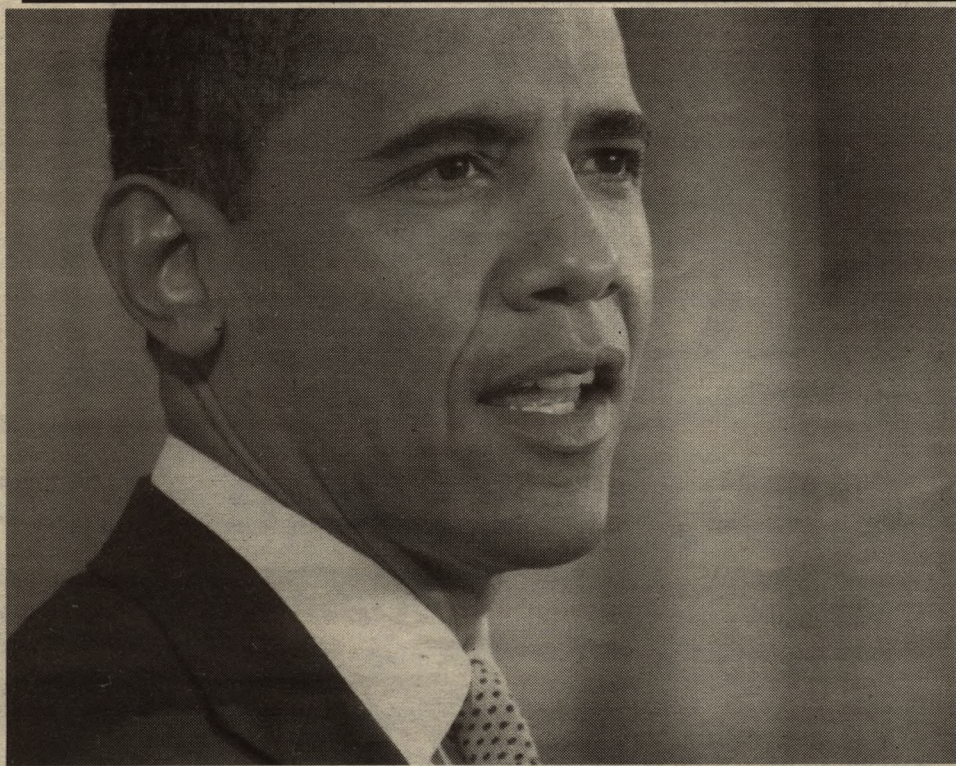
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News



Pres. Obama gives a speech on March 30 in the White House.

AP Photo/Evan Vucci

Plan to grant students more financial aid in the works

Mari Brown
Staff Reporter

President Barack Obama's economic plan will increase spending for higher education, including increasing financial aid for college students, according to CNN.com.

Obama plans to make college "affordable for all Americans by creating a new American Opportunity Tax Credit," said the Obama Web site. "This universal and fully refundable credit will ensure that the first \$4,000 of a college education is completely free for most Americans."

At Sacred Heart University, many students receive financial aid each year. According to the Sacred Heart Web site, "in 2006-2007, nearly 90 percent of SHU undergraduate students received financial aid, amounting to nearly \$23 million in University aid."

As of right now, in order to be eligible for financial aid, students must apply to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Federal student aid, which is where FAFSA comes from, is an office of the United States Department of Education that "ensures that all eligible individuals can benefit from federally funded or federally guaranteed financial assistance for education beyond high school," said FAFSA.com.

Sophomore Sean Murphy finds this application method to be time consuming and aggravating.

"They ask so many questions and some seem completely irrelevant to the topic in which they are drafted," said Murphy. "If there were a way to minimize what they are asking and somehow build off of previous forms, it would be much easier."

According to Obama's Web site, he plans to address the public's issue with the FAFSA form by "eliminating the current federal financial aid application and enabling families to apply simply by checking a box on their tax form, authorizing their tax information to be used, and eliminating the need for a separate appli-

cation."

With this alteration to the application, he believes that more people will apply for aid.

This could end up being true but some students who already go through the process of filling out the FAFSA form have opinions on the proposed application.

"I think the ease of the situation would be great, however I believe there needs to be some way to determine accuracy and actual need for financial aid," said Murphy. "But I do think this ease will cause a serious influx of applicants."

The amount of applicants at Sacred Heart is already substantial, with up to 88 percent of students receiving institutional grants, 78 percent of students receiving loans, and more students receiving Federal and State and Local grants, said www.scholarships.com.

Sophomore Heather Swarts is one of the students at Sacred Heart that receives financial aid.

"One of the main reasons I chose SHU was because of the package they provided to me," said Swarts. "I could always use more financial aid, so I hope SHU sees some of the money Obama plans to give out."

College is much more expensive than in the past. Tuition costs in the U.S. "have grown nearly 40 percent in the past five years," said the Obama Web site. "The average graduate leaves college with over \$19,000 in debt."

"I think the plan to increase financial aid is great," Swarts said. "I think President Obama will actually go through with it, because he seems like he cares a lot about our generation getting college degrees, which these days is necessary to live a successful life."

Obama has done the math, and figured that "between 2001 and 2010, 2 million academically qualified students will not go to college because they cannot afford it." Because of these statistics, Obama is pushing his education plans through the government system to make college more affordable for new applicants and students already enrolled in higher education.

International students add diversity to campus life

Stephanie Sakellarides
Staff Reporter

A recent survey of 2,000 colleges done by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Office, showed that 54 percent of colleges admit illegal or undocumented students to their school.

Sacred Heart University is home to many students from locations all over the world. From London to Sweden to Canada, there is a very diverse atmosphere among the Sacred Heart community.

According to Larry Wielk, dean of students, Sacred Heart does not admit students without legal documents.

"When documenting international students, we follow the federal required SEVIS (Students & Exchange Visitor System) policies for registering and international students," said Wielk.

Denise Tiberio, associate dean of students, agreed saying that all international students that apply to SHU through the Admissions Office have to file for an F-1 Visa, which allows them to enter the United States as a full-time student.

"This is a lengthy process and allows us to monitor international students through SEVIS online," said Tiberio.

Some students, like junior Erik Boisvert, came to Sacred Heart to pursue their athletic careers, while also getting a proper education to fall back on. Boisvert, originally from Canada, is enjoying his experience in the United States while

achieving goals at Sacred Heart in both his business and hockey careers.

"Being an international student here at Sacred Heart has been great," said Boisvert. "It has helped me develop my English and given me the support and help I might need to complete my school work."

David Backman, a Sacred Heart soccer player from Gothenburg, Sweden, came to Sacred Heart to get away from hard times of little education.

"Since education is 'for free' in Sweden, families do not save money for their kids' college, so without a scholarship I would have most likely stayed home," said Backman. "I consider myself very fortunate to have my sport paying for my education."

Backman added that when deciding what university to go to it came down to offers from different coaches.

"The coach here at SHU, Joe Barroso, helped me out with answering all my questions and I heard good things about him, which made me come here," said Backman.

Sacred Heart is accepting more and more students every year. The university is giving the opportunity to students overseas who would like to get a good education and an experience in America.

This year there were a large amount of students accepted from India, which gives Sacred Heart a more diverse atmosphere and welcomes students into the American education.

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Past and present students give back to SHU

Alyssa Scott
Staff Reporter

What goes around comes around.

This phrase rings true when it comes to the funding at Sacred Heart University. After receiving aid from the school for their undergraduate studies, students and alumni give back to the university for future students.

"It only seems fair to give back to the institution that helped me to pursue my dreams and goals," said alumni Melissa Roffi.

Through the department of institutional advancement, alumni maintain a close relationship with the school.

According to the Sacred Heart Web site, "Institutional Advancement strives to further the University's broad educational goals. It works to build bridges of understanding, common purpose and active engagement between the University and a growing circle of friends."

According to Anthony Cernera, the director of institutional advancement, 1,500 alumni gave gifts to the university last year, and they hope to increase the number to 2,000 alumni for this year.

To make these numbers possible, Sacred Heart maintains a strong relationship with its alumni. Besides holding events on campus, the school provides alumni with newsletters and news feeds online. All of the money contributed is put toward scholarships and aid for students.

"It's been heart touching to see the amount of alumni who give back," said Cernera.

Working for institutional advancement, Cernera and his staff encourage financial contributions from alumni in a variety of

ways. They get in touch with them through the phone-a-thon, which is when current students call alumni and ask for money, as well as mailings and various events.

"The amount of money that alumni give is important to get students through school," said Cernera.

According to Cernera, more than 90 percent of all full-time undergraduates receive financial aid, translating to a contribution of nearly \$30 million annually.

Knowing that previous alumni helped contribute to their education, many recent graduates want to give back in the same way.

"When I was in school, alumni were donating. It made me want to donate as well. Also, I worked at the call center so I got to see the other side. I know that it's important for the school," said alumni Andrew Sabia.

Along with the help of alumni, the current seniors contribute as well. The senior class gift is a donation made by the senior class that goes toward scholarships and aid for future students.

Cernera and Erin Dempsey, a Sacred Heart alumna and the assistant director of annual funding, said that last year they raised \$2,600, and they hope that \$2,500 will be raised this year. Although they hope that at least half of the class will make a contribution, so far 156 out of the 750 seniors have given money of various amounts.

"It's something we are really involved with," said Cernera.

So far, as a promotion of the current senior class gift, they've had T-shirt sales among other opportunities to donate.

In addition, they will be selling "Pioneer Walk bricks" to alumni and seniors; this is already something that many people have

expressed an interest in purchasing. Alumni and seniors can purchase bricks engraved with their name or the name of someone that influenced their Sacred Heart experience. All proceeds will go toward the University Annual Fund.

Each year events are held in an attempt to fund-raise. According to the Sacred Heart Web site, the university hosts the annual "Pioneer Open," a golf tournament "to raise essential scholarship funds to support deserving young men and women who otherwise would not be able to experience an education in the Sacred Heart tradition." This year the open will take place on June 8.

The Web site also features the Discovery Dinner, "a very special event designed to honor distinguished members of the community while raising critically needed scholarship funds for the University's most deserving students." This year the dinner will take place on April 22 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, featuring Kerry Kennedy and Lidia Matticchio Bastianich as honored guests. The money goes toward the Discovery Scholar Grant that provides a tuition-free education to low-income students in Fairfield County.

With the current state of the economy, the staff starts to consider new ideas to promote donations from alumni. Cernera said that they doubled the staff to make more calls, manage events, and continue mailings.

Despite the economic changes in America, alumni still seem eager to donate what they can.

"I gave money this year. It wasn't too much, but as I start making more money I should be able to make a larger donation," said Sabia.

Spring concert proves to be a big success among students

...CONTINUED from page 1.

that got up close and personal with Jackson.

"I think he looked at me and smiled," said Greenlee.

Other students felt that the concert still could have been better.

"It was entertaining and he was energetic and got the crowd going," said junior Alex Moreno, "but it was a little too crowded and he only played 20 second clips of his songs."

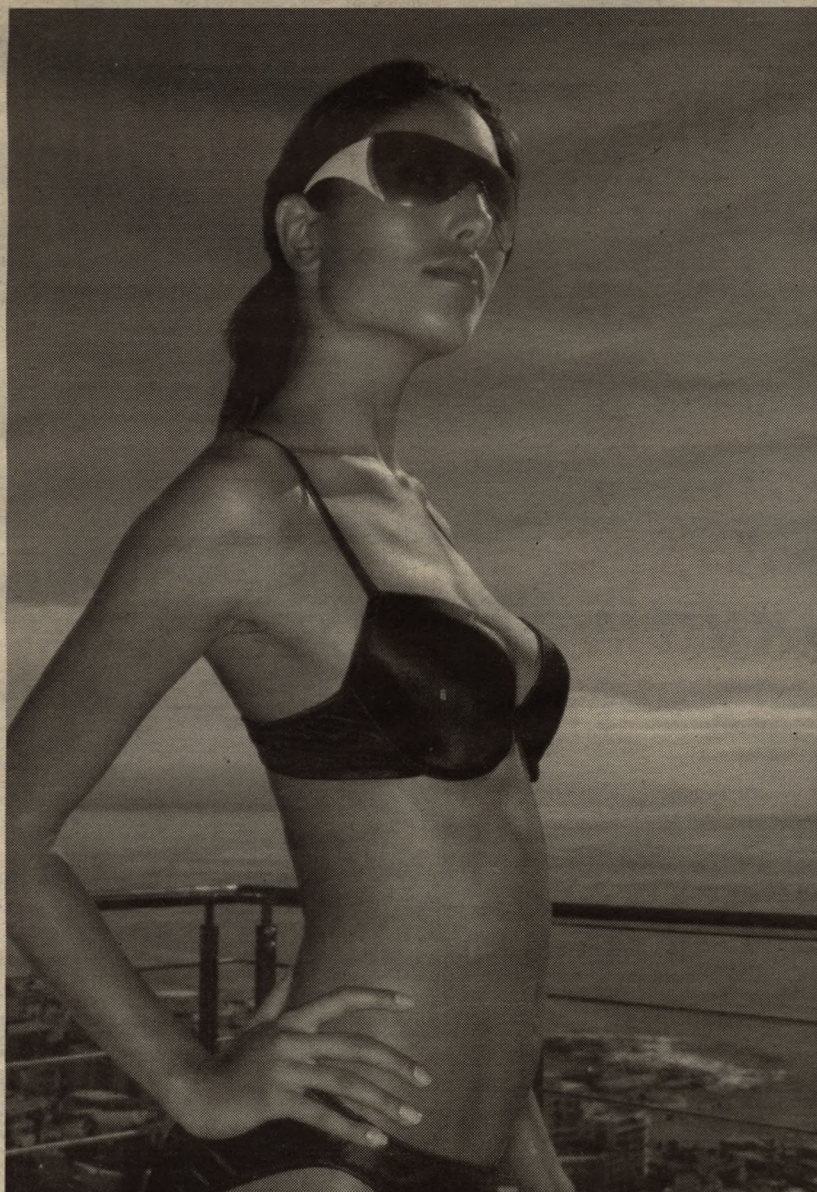
Over the weekend several rumors went around campus about security problems at the concert including an incident with several students on the tour bus.

Denise Tiberio, associate dean of students, has assured that these stories are just rumors.

"There were no incidents with girls on the tour bus," said Tiberio. "The concert was one of the easiest concerts [security wise] and all stories being heard are false."

Issue on campus? Exciting events? Notice anything newsworthy?

If so, please contact News Editor: pannyc@sacredheart.edu



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News

ECONOMY AFFECTING LIFE AFTER COLLEGE

Graduating students face decision between continuing school or entering into a career

Mallory Berko
Staff Reporter

Should I stay or should I go?

After graduation, college seniors are faced with a situation that has the potential of making or breaking their future career.

Today's economy is not in the best condition. People are being laid off, jobs are hard to find if you're searching for one, and money is tight. And today, money is everything.

In times like these if you don't have a job, whether it's by choice or due to unfortunate circumstances, the average person will have a hard time surviving in this economy.

A prevalent issue that is affecting graduating college seniors is not just finding a job, but keeping a job.

What will happen to them when they leave their educated environment? Will they find a job or will they wind up on the unemployment list and join the millions of Americans unemployed already?

According to an article from TIME Magazine, The National Association for Colleges and Employers (NACE) surveyed several companies for spring updates, and found that companies plan to hire 22 percent fewer grads from this year's graduating class than in 2008.

With the poor economy, which many are forecasting will last for at least another year, students have to reconsider their

options of what they want to do after graduation.

Deciding whether to look for a job straight out of school or continue with schooling is a decision that many seniors have to take into consideration.

According to Edwin Koc, the director of strategic and foundation research at NACE, if a student was interviewing in the fall, there was a decent chance of getting a job. He notes, however, that the spring does not seem promising.

Job prospects for graduating seniors have dropped significantly in every business sector so far this year. Finance has seen the most dramatic decline, while accounting and engineering have seen a 37 percent decline in hiring.

However, the one sector that is still seeking employment is the government, which plans to hire more new grads this year than it did last year.

Many colleges are advising students to consider graduate school, to allow the job market some time to hopefully turn around and improve. But some students are feeling the economic pinch, and while grad school might be the better choice, financially, it might not be the right time.

"I'll be going to law school in the fall," said senior Dana Sceppaquercia. "I figured I'd be going to some sort of graduate school right after I completed my undergraduate studies, but the economy has greatly helped in my final decision."

There are some students who are choosing to chance the economy and search for a job after graduation. However, where some employers have already made job offers to students, they may have to reconsider some of those offers. NACE says that as many as 8 percent of employers will be forced to make these decisions.

Students aren't completely ignorant of this fact either. There are some who are already thinking six months ahead, to the point of which they do not find a job of their liking or any job in general, that they may reconsider going back to school earlier than planned.

"Currently, I am going to work for Enterprise rent-a-car until the market picks up and I can move into my desired industry of marketing and advertising," said senior Brian Blasko.

But Blasko has also prepared himself for the worst case scenario by applying to grad school at Villanova University.

"I applied to further my education, in order to gain a higher entry job for when the economy picks up," said Blasko, "as right now jobs in marketing and advertising are scarce."

Similar to Blasko, students who are looking to further their education through a graduate program are doing so in order to get a better position at a potential future job. But there are some considerations that students should keep in mind when determining if grad school is right for them.

There are certain fields of study that are more appropriate to obtain a Masters degree than others. Business-related jobs, for example, look for employees to have that higher level of education, if one is seeking a higher-level management position.

According to, "How to Decide if Graduate School is Right for You," an article posted on the Associated Content Web Site, "some companies offer immediate salary increases once the degree is earned, and others allow for faster advancement or at least additional advancement consideration for those with experience and higher degrees."

Still, many fields don't require advanced degrees. Those jobs where employers base their decisions on portfolios or pieces of work from a potential employee, find little need for a Masters degree.

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-MONSTER.COM TO SEARCH FOR
JOBS.

Lack of laptops stirs up debate among students

...CONTINUED from page 1.

"Students who are currently enrolled in the laptop program will continue to be refreshed based on how the program exists today," said Canaan.

The news of these changes is hitting some students hard.

"I do not see why the university is changing such a beneficial program," said sophomore Brian Flumere. "The fact that you are issued a laptop as a freshman makes coming to Sacred Heart even more appealing, and I think many students will be surprised to hear that they are changing it."

Some Sacred Heart students said they believe that laptops are in fact vital to student life.

"I think it's a good idea that our school gives out laptops to its students," said sophomore Jessica Ingrassia. "It is especially convenient that it is already included in tuition and is easily accessible when you arrive as a freshman."

If students have to buy laptops on their own, prices

may vary. At today's prices, a standard Lenovo ThinkPad starts at \$869, while the MacBook laptop starts at \$999. The ThinkPad and the MacBook are the two computer models currently entrusted by the university to its students.

However, many students said they are happy they don't have to buy a laptop on their own, as they already have several other costs to worry about as they enter into college.

"The fact that Sacred Heart gives laptops to us as undergraduate students makes things much easier," said Flumere. "It saves me hundreds of thousands of dollars on purchasing my own laptop and taking care of repairs and servicing."

Some also argue that having a school-issued laptop is beneficial to keeping up with teachers and class work.

"I think it is important for the school to give laptops to the students because it is a very useful tool for checking if teachers post

assignments, grades, and other information necessary for class," said freshman Sean Wilk.

As helpful as the current laptop program seems to be, some students say that altering the program would not cause them to change their minds about attending Sacred Heart.

"It would not necessarily effect my decision to come here as a freshman," said Wilk. "There are plenty of other reasons to come to Sacred Heart. The laptop program is just a great bonus right now."

Canaan said that the mobile computing program will still work to assist students with their computer needs, as well as set a requirement for all students to purchase their own computers.

"Students will still be expected to be using a laptop as [a] tool for their education," said Canaan. "The Call Center and the Help Desk at the Factory will remain to support software and hardware problems."



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Study Break

Page 5

April Fool's Day Crossword Puzzle

Across

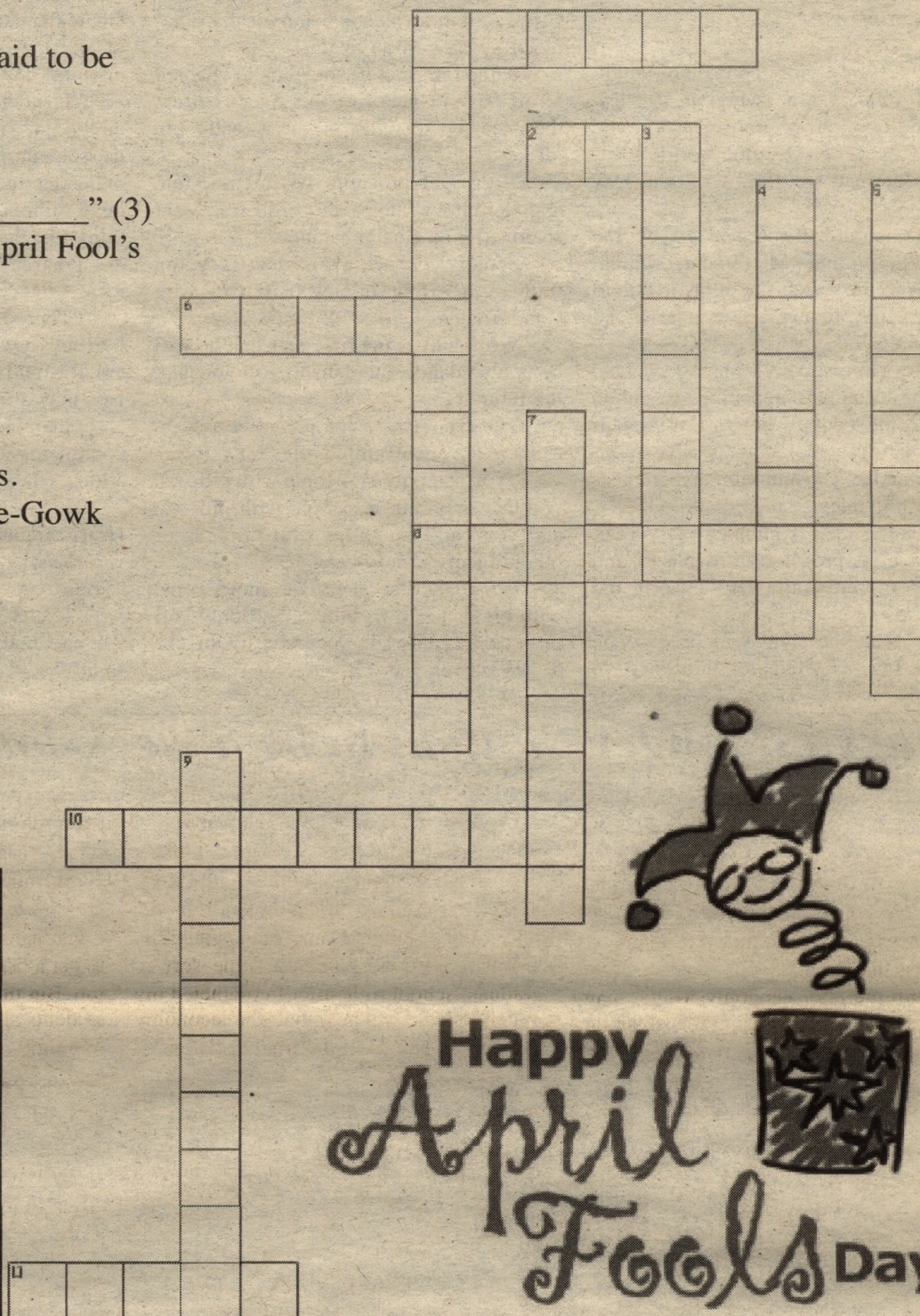
1. Someone who is playing and not being serious is said to be "Fooling _____"
2. A gift that is a joke is also called a "_____ gift"
6. A plan that shouldn't fail is "Fool _____"
8. "Fool me once shame on you, fool me twice _____" (3)
10. Tricks, pranks and _____ jokes are common on April Fool's Day.
11. Pop singer Jewel sang "Foolish _____"

Down

1. The first day of April (3)
3. A person who falls for jokes easily is said to be this.
4. In this country April Fool's Day is called "Hunt-the-Gowk Day"
5. Knock-Knock answer.
7. A telephone gag.
9. 1956 pop song "Why Do Fools _____" (3)

Look for the answers in the following issue of the Spectrum!

Puzzles created with Puzzlemaker.com



EASTER WORD SEARCH

S N A E B Y L L E J M Y Q R L
O H O B A S K E T A A N Y E R
T M L I B A O H R S R N C S U
Z P E Q T K S S O E Y U N U D
S S O R C A H U T L S B U R V
T E G N C M V S S P Y C C R A
V T N W A T A L E E H R E E Y
W A C L P E B E A U J G Y C W
S L L Q A B P S R S G F P T K
V O V D S U O C P S E Z Y I L
W C T P T C H F U R N N U O A
P O K B E T N U H V I Q E N H
S H F Z L O Y Q O J I N N C O
M C B R E A K B Q R E D G M I
W E A X V Q U L B N O A V E D

BASKET
BREAK
BUNNY
CHOCOLATE
CHURCH
CROSS
EASTER

EGGS
HOLY
HUNT
JELLYBEANS
JESUS
MARSHMALLOW
MARY

PASTEL
PEEPS
RESURRECTION
SALVATION
SPRING

Last Issue's Spring Fling Crossword Answers:

- Across:
1. Umbrella
 3. Daylight savings
 5. May
 6. Shorts
 7. Puddle
 9. Allergies
 11. Spring
 13. Kite
 14. Rainbow
- Down:
15. April Fool's Day
 2. May Flowers
 4. Baseball
 8. Rainboots
 10. Robin
 12. Bee
 16. Picnic

Last Issue's Number Block Answers

				24
5	8	3	2	18
0	1	7	4	12
3	8	9	2	22
7	1	8	4	20
15	18	27	12	19

Sacred Heart 5-Day Forecast

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Fog, misty in the morning; mostly cloudy	Breezy with rain and a thunder-storm	Partly sunny and windy	Sunshine, breezy and pleasant	Breezy with thickening clouds
▲ 50° ▼ 43°	▲ 57° ▼ 43°	▲ 57° ▼ 39°	▲ 60° ▼ 39°	▲ 55° ▼ 40°

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2001

Perspectives

Feathers fly high for International Pillow Fight Day

James Kearns
Staff Reporter

Feathers are flying, people are laughing, and pillows are swinging in New York City, London, Miami, Houston, and many other cities all over the world. Why? It's the International Pillow Fight Day (IPFD).

IPFD is globally organized by the Urban Playground Movement, which, according to their Web site, aims to "organize free, fun, all ages, non-commercial public events."

One of the company's main goals is to "make these unique happenings in public space become a significant part of popular culture, partially replacing passive, non-social, branded consumption experiences like watching television."

The basic idea is simple: every year, people meet at predetermined places and times in major cities all over the world and have a massive pillow fight.

This year, the fight will be held on April 4. For all students interested in going, the nearest one to Sacred Heart

University is on Wall Street in New York City at 3 p.m., which is being locally organized by New Mind Space.

Although many students at Sacred Heart haven't heard of this event before, they seemed to think it was a really fun idea.

"It would probably be intense, fun, and definitely out of the ordinary," said senior Angine Gharekhanian.

Senior Michael Shannahan is going to this year's fight in New York City with some friends.

While this is the first year that he will be in attendance, he plans to go to ones in the future.

The event isn't a complete free-for-all, as there are some simple rules for safety.

"You can only hit people with pillows, you can only aim at people with pillows, and you can't hit those with cameras or other objects," said Shannahan.

He adds that everyone must come with his or her own pillow, and only soft pillows are allowed. Decorating your pillow is encouraged.

Freshman Liz Platenyk, who, like Gharekhanian, had never previously heard of IPFD, would like to see Sacred Heart organize one of their own.

"It would be awesome. I would definitely go," said Platenyk. "They should do something like upperclassmen verses underclassmen. I think there would be a huge turnout if Sacred Heart threw something like that."

Gharekhanian offered additional ideas.

"There should be music and a theme like boys against girls," said Gharekhanian. "That would be really cool and there would be a huge turnout."

Gharekhanian added that the event could be used as a way to raise money for a local charity.

However, not everyone on the Sacred Heart campus felt that a giant pillow fight was the way to go for the next big campus event.

"I think there are much better things the university could do than host pillow fights," said freshman Alex Zeller. "I have

been very pleased with what SET has been doing this past year. I've enjoyed every event I've been able to make it to, and I don't think they need to throw a random pillow fight in there."

Although Zeller didn't think Sacred Heart needed its own, he appreciates the idea of IPFD.

"It's kind of funny, actually it's kind of hilarious, but I probably would never go," said Zeller.

Shannahan explained that the fight will be worth it. He's already made plans for later that night.

"There is an after-party in an undisclosed location in Brooklyn to cap off the night where heavy bass and electronic sounds will fill the air," said Shannahan. "Costumes are encouraged, and the overall goal is to have a good time."

The Urban Playground Movement welcomes anyone and everyone to these free pillow fight events.

"I suggest that everyone attends this," said Shannahan. "You will have the time of your life."

Breaks no longer thought to be a week-long party, but a week-long rest

Joe Mazza &
Liz Warren
Staff Reporters

The days of rowdy partying in Cancun and Alcapulco are coming to an end. More and more students attending Sacred Heart University are beginning to stay home over breaks.

"My favorite thing in general about break is the ability to relax and let loose for a little bit from school life," said freshman

Laura Callahan.

Other students agree that relaxation is the best part of a vacation. This past spring break, many used the time to become centered.

"To be honest, I did the complete opposite of the usual," said senior Lexi Cusano. "But I like things that way. The way I unwind is by sitting and thinking a lot and not overwhelming myself with plans."

Break is also a time for self-develop-

ment and growth. Students take the time off from both school and traveling to keep from overloading themselves and becoming burnt out.

"I like taking time to myself to better the way I feel," said Cusano. "During school, I have no time for my own needs, and that's a big part of my vacation."

Getting enough sleep, along with being able to enjoy the comfort of home, is another important aspect of vacation.

"[Over break, I sleep] for about 10

hours a night," said sophomore Chelsea Rees.

Being away from distracting roommates and the stresses of college life allows people to get more rest.

While this type of vacation can be seen as boring, students still enjoy themselves. Sometimes, a little R & R goes a long way.

"I'd say [if it is] relaxing and eventful, it is the perfect break," said Cusano.

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If you had 50 Cent's money
how would you spend it?



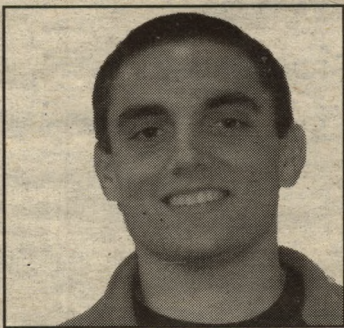
Ryan Donahue
Freshman

"Invite two girls backstage."



Caroline Slemp
Sophomore

"Pay off my college tuition and build a hospital."



Chris Giacchino
Junior

"Build a chapel in half the time Sacred Heart does."



Tara Kelly
Senior

"Buy land in the rainforest and Amazon and save it so it can't be built on."

The editorial pages are an open forum. Letters to the editor are encouraged and are due by Monday at noon for consideration for each Thursday's issue. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling, punctuation and length. The Spectrum does not assume copyright for any published material. We are not responsible for the opinions of the writers voiced in this forum.

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Rave of the week: McCafferty's fans consider book series to be "perfect"

Rants & Raves

Allie Pohevitz

Columnist



Being a 16-year-old girl isn't always easy. School's rough, the boys are half your height, and your parents no longer make any sense.

Author Megan McCafferty does an outstanding job of explaining this period in a girl's life, and over the past few years has continued to write about the trials and tribulations of growing up in today's society.

With her series of books, "Sloppy Firsts," "Second Helpings," "Charmed Thirds," "Fourth Comings," and the latest addition, "Perfect Fifths," (catch the theme?) she has done it again

and explained the unexplainable.

The series of books follows a young girl, Jessica Darling, and is written as if it was Jess's personal journal.

The novels follow Jessica from her young adult life to her post-college career and living on her own.

With a twist on the latest book, the novel comes partially from the point of view of her ex-love interest, Marcus Flutie.

Over the years, we have gotten to witness the growing up of the main character. From peeing in a cup to help a "dreg," (the druggie who is inexplicably hot) pass a drug-test, to the birth of her sister's daughter, to turning down a proposal from the love of her life (who just may be that same

dreg), Jess's story does not let you down.

Being one of the few to receive an uncorrected advanced proof, I can assure you that this final book does not disappoint.

It truly is the ending I have been waiting for since the first book debuted in 2001.

The years were worth the wait to learn how Jess's life will carry on, and whether or not Marcus will be included in this new life.

Not only is the newest book already one of my favorites, the first four novels were also amazing, and have received praise from many, including Atoosa Rubenstein, founding Editor-in-Chief of CosmoGirl magazine.

"The book 'Sloppy Firsts' perfectly captures the turbulent roller-coaster ride that is being a teenager. This is, at times, an intimate, painfully honest peek at a girl's coming of age. Getting to know Jessica was like meeting a new best friend. I miss her already,"

said Rubenstein.

"The book 'Sloppy Firsts' perfectly captures the turbulent roller-coaster ride that is being a teenager. This is, at times, an intimate, painfully honest peek at a girl's coming of age. Getting to know Jessica was

like meeting a new best friend. I miss her already," said Rubenstein.

It didn't stop with the first book, though. The Miami Herald states, "Megan McCafferty's hilarious coming-of-age novels are getting better as Jess gets older."

This New York Times bestselling series would be nothing without dedicated author McCafferty, and if you don't believe me, check her out on Facebook or one of her many fan Web sites.

She will also be around to talk and sign books at Barnes and Noble in Stamford on Friday, April 17 at 7 p.m. With "Perfect Fifths" to be released on April 14, this is definitely your opportunity to show McCafferty some love.

See you there!



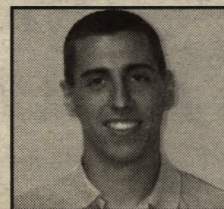
Photo Courtesy of Shaye Areheart Books

Author Megan McCafferty's series of books have received rave reviews by her diverse audience of readers.

He Said/ She Said...

How do you feel about Public Display of Affection?

Brian Germain
He said



You down with PDA? Yeah, you know me. Public Display of Affection is a touchy subject (pun intended).

Nothing made me angrier in my sixth grade days than all of the detentions I got for PDA. In my middle school, as if the awkward "tween" years weren't bad enough, there were rules banning all public displays of affection.

So, at that time in life where I was starting to notice girls, teachers were throwing out detentions left and right not just for kissing, but for hugs, and even hand-holding. Naturally, I rebelled against this ridiculous rule and spent many of my days in detention, and then walking home so my parents wouldn't know.

PDA is like a radioactive isotope; it's only OK in super small amounts, and too much will kill those around you. Nothing makes me want to vomit more than when I'm in the presence of a couple who is making out in public.

I think holding hands and hugging is OK, even the occasional smooch, but no one wants to see anything more than that.

If you are a person who holds hands and hugs, let's establish some kind of limit. Please cultivate some independence, because the occasional contact is OK, but no one wants to mistake you and your significant other as Siamese twins.

I'm sure we all know a couple like that. They are always touchy-feely and seem to be attached at the hip. With the amazing vocabulary of the English language, there is really only one word that can accurately describe this: gross.

This isn't even jealousy speaking. People don't hate excessive PDA because you have a great relationship. It's because there are just some things in life your eyes can go without seeing. Random strangers sucking face in aisle seven at Stop and Shop is one of these things.

So, whoever those SHU students were that I saw the other day, just purchase your spices, marinades, sauces, and seasonings, and leave the store next time.

Even in a dark corner of the dimly lit theater with a horror movie projecting on the screen, I still don't condone the reckless necking of love birds. The whole world gets it: you are in love. That is all fine and dandy, but have some self control.

This is a wild suggestion, but I have a rule of thumb that has potential. If it's not something you would do in church, don't do it anywhere in public.

Or, you can take on the popular sentiment of this generation and just do what you want. I have to tell you though, I think the world would be a better place if people kept their tongues to themselves in public.

Liz Warren
She said



You know that lump you get in your throat right before you vomit? I experience that awful feeling every time I see a couple engaging in Public Display of Affection (PDA).

Don't get me wrong, I'm not cold-hearted. A little affection can never hurt anyone. When I say I gag at the sight of PDA, I'm not talking about the quick peck on the lips as a pair is parting ways. I'm talking about the steamy make out session between the couple over by the frozen yogurt machine.

PDA is like a scarf your grandma made you: as cute as you may think it is, nobody wants to see it. While you consider it to be spontaneous and passionate when your boyfriend stops in the middle of a crowded hallway to kiss you and tell you how beautiful you are, bystanders consider it to be nauseating and inconvenient.

The fact that you just got in their way is not cute, but annoying. By engaging in your little romantic moment, you managed to piss people off and potentially even make them late for class.

Kissing in public, unnecessary rubbing and grabbing, or, my favorite, placing your hands in the other person's back pockets, is just trashy. It's a proclamation of physical activity, which is not only disrespectful, but is also a slap in the face to all the single people in the crowd.

Although making out is something that many couples do, doing so in public makes people wonder what else you're doing. It may seem obvious, but I think it's necessary to stress that intimacy should be kept, well, intimate.

But this disgusting act can go far beyond kissing and hugging. PDA includes every form of public expression of love—not just the physical kind. Away messages devoted to one person with symbols like "<3" and "143 4-eva" are just as lame. Chances are, when that person's away from her computer, she's with her boyfriend, anyway. It just seems completely unnecessary to me.

PDA also includes, but is not limited to, the annoying trend of having your boyfriend's name appear in the "interests" part of your Facebook page. Everyone knows you're obsessed with him. Do you really need to confirm their suspicions? AIM profiles with "Kevin" and the date you began dating is also sickening. Couples really need to start thinking of alternative ways of being romantic, because this is all too closely resembling high school.

Maybe the next time you want to show your significant other you care in the middle of a crowded room, slip him a note saying 'I love you.' Sure, it's a little tacky, but it's a lot more respectful and meaningful than shoving your tongue down his throat.

Girls & Sports



Art of Entertainment

ANIMAL PROMOTION WEEK

Compassion's the celebrity fashion Celebrities support PETA for better animal treatment

Lacey Gilleran
Staff Reporter

They have been in the news for many different reasons. They have poured red paint on people wearing fur, spray painted profanities on Hollywood stars, and made X-rated commercials banned from the Super Bowl, but PETA, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, strive to make a positive difference in the world.

According to the Web site, www.peta.org, PETA has more than two million members and supporters, making it the largest animal rights organization in the world. They spend their time exposing animals suffering in the four largest businesses for the longest periods of time.

These businesses are factory farms, laboratories, the clothing trade, and the entertainment industry. They also reach out to other cruelty including: "the cruel killing of beavers, birds and other "pests," and the abuse of backyard dogs."

Even though PETA is commonly thought of as the people protesting fashion week and causing damage to public and private property, they also work through public education, cruelty investigations, research, animal rescue, legislation, special events, and celebrity involvement.

There are many celebrities that are involved with the motives of the organization to help stop the suffering of animals all over the world. Some of the celebrities include: Alyssa Milano, Mickey Rourke, Eva Mendes, Natalie Portman, Pink, Paul McCartney, Forest Whitaker, Carrie Underwood, and Joaquin Phoenix.



AP Photo/ Jennifer Graylock

Pamela Anderson, one of PETA's celebrity supporters poses for the camera.

There are celebrities that have spoken out publicly more on the issue than others.

Pamela Anderson is one of the individuals who is a very vocal PETA supporter. She has worked as honorary director, and has spoken out on a lot of different issues. Specifically, she has been speaking out against Kentucky Fried Chicken with the way they treat their chickens. She has also done publicity posters for PETA where she poses in a lettuce bikini and the phrase "Turn over a new leaf, try vegetarian."

Most recently she attended a fundraiser in Fla. for the 20th anniversary for the Animal Rights Foundation of Fla. Before attending the fundraiser, Anderson wrote to the governor of Fla. saying, "PETA and I appeal to you to take action to prevent Florida's roadside zoos from keeping great apes, and to ensure that these intelligent primates are transferred to approved sanctuaries to live out the remainder of their lives to suitable surroundings."

Another celebrity that reached a milestone with PETA is Kim Basinger. In 1997, she spoke out pleading for publicity for the lives for 40 beagles whose legs were being broken in an experiment. With her help, all the dogs were released for adoption into loving homes.

While some celebrities use letters to politicians or press conferences, celebrities like Khloe Kardashian are choosing more exposing forms of publicity for PETA.

The sister of Kim Kardashian and reality TV star posed naked in an ad that read, "Fur? I'd rather go naked." The ad ran over the holiday season and Kardashian said, "Compassion is the fashion this holiday season, so join me in boycotting fur. With all the stylish and super-warm things you can wear, it's easy to have a killer look without killing animals."

Whether protesting, pleading, or naked, celebrities and PETA fight for the better treatment of animals everyday. They not only help the animals already suffering, but also prevent other animals from ever having to go through the same pain, and for that they are every animal's best friend.

UNDERWOOD SUPPORTS HUMANE SOCIETY

Liz Brombacker
Staff Reporter

Four time Grammy winner, 2009 AMC Entertainer of the year nominee, and a donator to charity; county star Carrie Underwood does it all.

Underwood, American Idol winner in 2005 has always been a lover of animals, growing up on a farm in Oklahoma she was around animals all the time. However, while on the road, Underwood was unable to be around her animals. This lead her to team up with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS).

According to Underwood's official Web site, the HSUS is her favorite charity and she is a long-time supporter.

It is a nice change for some students to see that a celebrity is so involved with a charity and not just with themselves.

"I am glad to see a celebrity thinking beyond themselves and trying to make a positive effect on the world," said sophomore Sean O'Brien. "It is refreshing to hear a story like this as opposed to the usual greed and selfishness that is [commonly] associated with celebrities."

Not only is Underwood a supporter, but she recently released a song in which all proceeds made will go to the HSUS.

On March 11, Underwood's version of Motley Crue's "Home Sweet Home" premiered on American Idol. This song will play every week when a contestant is voted off of the show.

Underwood feels the song is fitting for both American Idol and the HSUS.

"I've always loved this song, and besides being very fitting for Idol, to me, the title is also very fitting with animal rescue and finding animals their own homes. So we felt it was important to tie the release into an amazing animal charity like the HSUS," said Underwood in an interview.

Underwood is very devoted to finding homes for animals, she along with five other celebrities including actress Wendie Malick teamed up with the HSUS to release a public service announcement.

According to the HSUS Web site, the announcement will be played on both television and radio upon request. The announcements are all based around efforts to save the animals affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Underwood is making an attempt to reach people of all ages. She was featured in KIND News, a publication from HSUS for elementary school children. She talks about how important it is to spay and neuter your pets, and emphasizes what a big responsibility having a pet is.

"I think it is great that Underwood is trying to get the message across to spay and neuter pets," said freshman Brigid Paddock. "One of the biggest problems is over population; there are not enough homes for all of these animals."

To find out more about the Humane Society of the United States, or to become a member visit their Web site at www.HSUS.org.

PET BUFFET BY RACHAEL RAY Nutrish pet cuisine made with love for Isaboo and your dog too

Michelle Munden
Staff Reporter

A fond face of food on television is Rachael Ray, and this time she's aiming to please the hairy customers down on four legs.

This past July, Rachael Ray expanded her cooking empire to include a new line of pet cuisine called Rachael Ray Nutrish. Her tag line "Made with love for my Isaboo and your dog too," relays the substantial role and inspiration that her Pit bull, Isaboo, had in her creation for the food line.

Ray worked with a team of pet nutrition experts to create a pet food that is made with simple, natural ingredients.

If that isn't enough, 100 percent of the proceeds go to Rachael's Rescue Charity that was founded to help at-risk animals through adoption, medical care and educational programs along with training and outreach initiatives.

The charity's Web site highlights different groups and organizations that help needy animals. Organizations such as North Shore Animal League, Bad Rap, ASPCA, and Vet Dogs.

"It seemed like not a lot of extra time to donate to something that could potentially raise millions of dollars for championing these little creatures that can't speak for themselves," Ray said to the Associated Press.

According to www.rachaelray.com,



AP Photo/ Dan Steinberg

Rachael Ray poses with her award for outstanding talk show entertainment.

Ray writes that the food is made with real meat like chicken and beef as the first ingredient.

"There are no fillers. No junk. Just lots of good, wholesome stuff," boasts her namesake Web site. There are no by-products, artificial flavors or preservatives; and each recipe is packed with a wide array of nutritional powerhouses such as vitamin E, selenium, high quality proteins, calcium, and of course Ray's staple, extra virgin

olive oil, (or as she refers to it, EVOO).

"We worked closely with Rachael on the recipes to ensure that the formulations included natural, high-quality ingredients," said Doug Lang, EVP, sales and marketing, Ainsworth Pet Nutrition and manufacturer of Rachael Ray Nutrish, in a press release. "Pet parents will receive the best of both worlds, a delicious recipe and a highly nutritious formula."

Ray's pet cuisine line also includes both crunchy and chewy treats named after her best friend Isaboo. Isaboo Booscotti crunchy treats come in two flavors - bacon and peanut butter. Isaboo Grill Bites chewy treats come in beefy burger and bacony burger flavors.

According to www.rachaelray.com, "We continue our commitment to food safety and quality assurance by actively participating in a Pet Food Industry (PFI) work group to establish and implement "Best Practices" recognized by federal regulatory agencies for its excellence in today's Pet Food Industry."

Her Web site offers information about the food line, as well as recipes that can be shared with pets. It also includes a pet lovers blog and listings for pets that need to be adopted.

Ray is also working on a pet food line for cats.

So perhaps you should "paws" from what you're doing and pick up some Rachael Ray Nutrish for your pooch today.

THE CAT CORNER EXCLUSIVE

Stratford Cat Project on-campus fundraiser ends on a successful note

WE'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS TIME TO THANK EVERYONE THAT HAS PARTICIPATED IN OUR STRATFORD CAT PROJECT FUND-RAISER. WE HAD MORE RESPONSE THAN WE COULD HAVE EVER IMAGINED! THE CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY THE SCP AND WILL HELP THEM SO MUCH. NOW THAT THE FUND-RAISER HAS COME TO AN END, WE HAVE ONE LAST ORDER OF BUSINESS. THIS ISSUE OF THE SPECTRUM IS DEDICATED TO THE SCP, THEREFORE ALL OF THE PROCEEDS FROM ADVERTISING FROM THIS ISSUE WILL BE DONATED TO THE ORGANIZATION. THE TOTAL OF THIS DONATION IS \$675. THIS MONEY WILL BE DONATED TOWARDS THE SCP'S "RILEY'S SECOND CHANCE FUND," WHICH IS A SPECIAL FUND TO HELP CATS THAT ARE INJURED AND/OR HAVE LIFE THREATENING PROBLEMS.

Bubba and Luke's success story

On March 5, two black and white cats, Bubba and Luke, were the Spectrum Cat Corner's cats of the week.

Bubba's start to life was traumatic. He was attacked by a dog when he was eight weeks old and ended up falling into a sewer drain.

He was luckily saved by some concerned rescuers and was taken to Shoreline Animal Hospital. One of his back paws was severely injured therefore it had to be amputated.

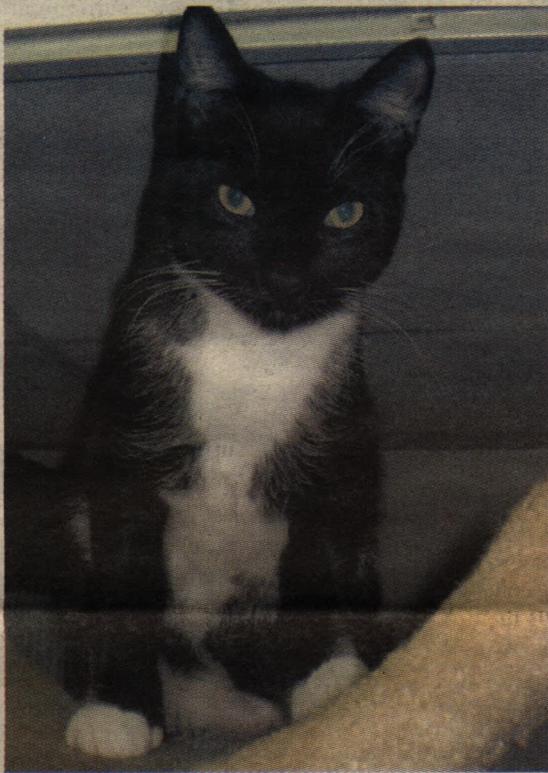
Luke is a quiet cat. He was found in a pool hall in Milford. He absolutely loves his treats and toys.

Lucky for these two, someone saw their ad in the Spectrum's Cat Corner and wanted to give them a forever home.

Joe Albanese a biosimetrist for the State of Connecticut, adopted the boys. He is a scientist-type who loves animals, and has previously owned a cat with a disability. It was a match made in heaven.

"Bubba and Luke are adapting, they are eating and using the litter boxes I put out for them, without a

problem. I have a great house for cats" said Albanese.



Bubba sitting on his kitty condo.

THE FINAL SCP FUND-RAISER TOTALS:

CANS OF WET FOOD:

455 CANS

POUNDS OF DRY FOOD:

96.8 POUNDS

TREATS:

12 BAGS

LITTER:

10 POUNDS

LITTER PANS/BOWLS

2

MONEY:

\$33.00

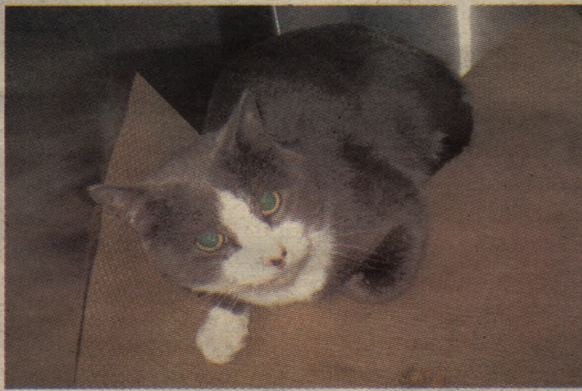
GIFT CARDS:

\$25.00

SCP cats still in need of their forever homes



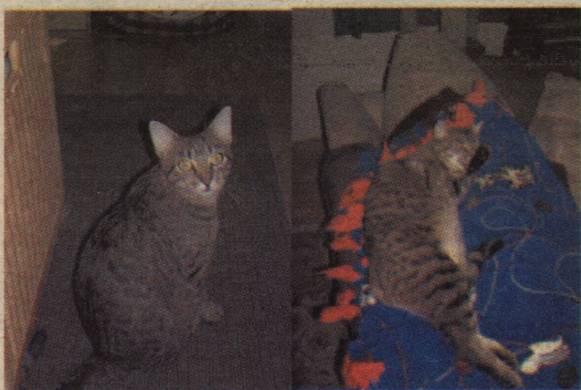
Cally is a gray/white female about 6-7 years old. She was adopted from the SCP 4½ years ago by a young couple. She was unfortunately returned to the SCP when they could no longer keep her. She is a wonderful companion and loves to be brushed. She has been spayed and is up to date on her shots.



Duke is a handsome gray and white male. He is about 4-5 years old. He came out of a multi-cat household and was not used to a lot of contact with people. Once he feels comfortable with you, he will interact with you on his terms. Duke has been neutered and is up to date on his shots.



Ariel is a black long haired cat with gold eyes. She is about 3 years old, spayed and is up to date on her shots. SCP rescued Ariel from a local woman's home. Ariel thoroughly enjoys the company and playtime with friends so the perfect home for her would be one with other kitties for playmates.



Harlow is a tabby/tiger female, about 1 1/2-2 years old. Harlow is a very sweet and affectionate kitty, is up to date on her shots and is spayed. The ideal home for Harlow will be one with another young cat, so that they may become friends and enjoy each other's company.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW ARE INTERESTED IN ANY OF THESE CATS, PLEASE CONTACT THE STRATFORD CAT PROJECT AT SCP4CATS@YAHOO.COM OR CALL (203) 375-7009.

PLEASE VISIT THE STRATFORD CAT PROJECT ON IT'S WEB SITE, WWW.STRATFORDCATPROJECT.ORG FOR SOME MORE INFORMATION ON CATS FOR ADOPTION OR OTHER WAYS TO HELP.



Camden and Windsor are two long haired gray cats, neutered and up to date on their shots. They are about 2-3 years old. They have been together from birth, and are playful and mischievous. The ideal home for them would be one with other kitties for lots of playtime, but with no small children.

Features

In the Spotlight: *New dean of business Dr. John Petillo*

Amanda Kaufold
Staff Reporter

Dr. John Petillo, recently named dean of Sacred Heart University's John F. Welch College of Business, isn't all business.

Petillo is a family man.

During the interview, Petillo said he was very excited about his family being on their way to make their first visit with him at the university since his being named dean.

Petillo has a wife, who is a physician, and a 13-year-old daughter who dreams of following his footsteps into the business world when she is older.

Though his new position keeps him separated most of the week from his family residing in Orange County, N.J., they are "very supportive," said Petillo.

Petillo also has a deep passion for cuisine. Petillo prides himself on his self-taught cooking skills. His favorite dishes to prepare are pastas and veal.

Besides cooking, Petillo can be found spending his spare time relaxing with a good book.

Petillo's interest in reading is far ranging. He enjoys reading everything from historical accounts of the Italian Renaissance and the medieval period, to the mystery novels of authors including James Patterson, to the classics, and books on leadership.

Among his favorites are "The Last Lecture," "To Kill a Mockingbird," "The Bluest Eye," and "Lord of the Flies."

Petillo also enjoys a good movie. He named "Schindler's List" and "Dead Poets Society," as just a couple of his top choices.

Petillo is a veteran of academic administration, having served previously as both chancellor and chief executive officer of Seton Hall University, president of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and on the board of several universities, including Sacred Heart, said he is "very pleased" about his return to academia.



The Spectrum/Zack Lane

Dean Petillo sits down for a chat in his office located in Roncalli Hall.

Petillo is also no stranger to what it means to be on the other side of the academic world—as a student; he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in classical languages and a master of arts degree in counseling from Seton Hall University, a master of divinity in pastoral theology from Darlington School of Theology, and a professional diploma in counselor education and a Ph.D. in counseling and personnel services from Fordham University.

Petillo said he discovered the position of dean was open at a luncheon with Sacred Heart University president, Dr. Anthony Cernera, during the past freshman convocation.

Since he was familiar with Sacred Heart, having been on the board from 1985 till 1989, and missed being a part of an academic environment, Petillo said he was immediately intrigued by the position.

"I decided to throw my name in," said Petillo.

Apart from his experience as a leader in the academic world, Petillo is equally familiar with leadership in the business world. Petillo served as regional president of First Union Insurance Services and as president and CEO of Newark Alliance.

Former chairman and CEO of General Electric, Jack Welch, whom the business school is named for, said of the selection of Petillo in a Sacred Heart press release, "I am thrilled to have John on board and am confident he is the perfect person to take the school to the next level."

Petillo is indeed determined to use his new position to make positive changes to the M.B.A. program at the school. One major goal set is to "move from boilerplate curriculum to something creative and distinctive," said Petillo.

According to Petillo, his overall objective is to make the business program more responsive to what today's businesses are looking for. Petillo said that creating a curriculum that promotes a well-rounded education and making the Jack Welch School of Business stand out among other business schools are his top priorities as dean.

However, Petillo is concerned about how the current state of the financial economy will affect his aims. Not only does the economy threaten students' ability to pay for school, but it also places limits on "resources within the school to enhance the program," said Petillo.

Regardless of the situation with the economy, Sacred Heart officials are confident that Petillo will have a positive impact on the university. In a release, Cernera stated his optimism for the future of Sacred Heart's business school and Petillo's new position in it.

"The John F. Welch College of Business continues to grow and to flourish, and Dean Petillo brings incredible strengths to the position: he is a leader for the 21st century," said Cernera.

Petillo said that it was Cernera's vision of what the business school could grow into that attracted him to the job and fills him with enthusiasm.

'Sexting' becomes latest cell phone trend

Gina Cerniglia
Staff Reporter

You know what texting is. But have you ever heard of "sexting?" It's defined as "the increasingly popular phenomenon of nude or seminude photos sent over wireless phones," according to a New York Times article.

And it's causing uproar these days.

Some students and faculty at Sacred Heart University have already heard about it. The sexting phenomenon isn't news.

"This happened in my hometown where 8th grade girls took pictures and it ended up reaching our high school," said sophomore Nicole Rowlands. "I think it has a lot to do with the media in our society, especially teen magazines in which young girls receive all the wrong messages. They are taught to be 'hot' and 'sexy' and these messages are obviously proven to be destructive."

And there can be dangers to the practice that young people aren't considering.

"Sexting is a phenomenon that is an outgrowth of the technological advances in communication," said Shirley Pavone, psychology professor at Sacred Heart. "The young teenagers probably don't recognize the implications of sending explicit pictures of themselves to their friends."

The New York Times reported on an incident whereby 15-year-old Marissa Miller of northeastern Pennsylvania had a photo taken and sent by cell phone of

herself and a friend to a classmate. Each of them were wearing just a bra. When District Attorney, George P. Skumanick of Wyoming County got a hold of the picture, he ordered Marissa and her friend to take a 10-hour class about pornography and sexual violence. He also threatened to file a charge of sexual abuse of a minor against both of them, which could lead to becoming registered sex offenders.

The incident, which is being more widely reported, has been generating controversy.

"I don't think it should be distributed because it is private, but at the same time I don't think that the girl should be persecuted as a sex offender," said freshman Danika Plummer.

According to Hamill, "A survey of 1,280 teenagers and young adults released in December by the National Campaign to Prevent Teenage and Unplanned Pregnancy and CosmoGirl.com found that 20 percent of teenagers and 33 percent of young adults ages 20 to 26 said they had sent or posted nude or semi-nude photos of themselves."

Other recent news reports indicated that this is a growing issue.

Another incident occurred at the Lawrence School where six boys between ages 12-14 were possibly being charged with child pornography because of a "sexting" incident.

One of the boy's 13-year-old girlfriend's semi-nude photo was sent to class-



The Spectrum/Zack Lane

mates through their cell phones. The boys went to court for this offense.

On the Wickd Local Falmouth Web site, Kathleen Clarke, Assistant Professor of Social Sciences and Human Services at Cape Cod Community College was not surprised.

"In a way it makes sense that we're seeing what we're seeing," Clarke said. "Adolescents do what they see mirrored in the greater adult society, and our values and morals about sexuality have changed."

Further, she blames the media for corrupting adolescents.

"As adults we tend to screen some of those [sexual] messages out, but I think for kids it's particularly difficult," Clarke said. "Citing the 'highly sexualized' lyrics of some songs, the content of some videos,

the erotic nature of current dancing and young celebrities having babies."

Comparatively, Pavone explains how this could be prevented in the future.

"I believe the young people implicated in the articles were unaware that their activities were considered pornographic," said Pavone.

"Education is a first step. Young people with strong role models, healthy relationships with family and friends is the best line of defense."

"Younger teens do not understand that pictures can be posted on the internet," said Clark. "They just don't know the consequences."

Referring to the teenagers who circulated the revealing cell phone photo of a classmate, Clarke said, "I'm sure these kids didn't realize they were possibly going to be accused of child pornography. They didn't even know, perhaps, that they were breaking the law."

Sophomore Marisa Graniela explained how our society is growing up way too fast and has led to this "sexting."

"I think parents are crazy these days. I think that kids don't need cell phones until they reach high school because there's just no need. Not to say that every adolescent with a cell phone is so-called 'sexting,' but I think that if they don't have a phone then it decreases the chance of a lot of stupid happenings," said sophomore Marisa Graniela.

Dippin' 'n' spittin' 'round campus

Nicole Giglia
Staff Reporter

You've seen them on campus with their protruding lower lips and water-bottles filled with brown goo. They're your local "dippers" and they love their chewing tobacco.

According to a University of Iowa study on smokeless tobacco, over \$10 million Americans use chewing tobacco and \$3 million of them are under the age of 21. The study also revealed that the average age of a first time user is 10.

"The first time I tried it was in sixth grade," said freshmen Mike Izzi. "I was on a baseball team with all older kids who dipped so I wanted to fit in and be cool. It's a bonding experience."

From the old Western spittoons to the mounds of a Major League Baseball field, chewing tobacco has become a symbol of masculinity. The popular brand Skoal has capitalized on this male bonding experience by creating the "brotherhood."

As a "brother," Skoal consumers can sign up for free on the Web site and receive the newsletter, coupons, and sample tins. Skoal even sponsors a NASCAR team, country music concerts, and bull-riding competitions.

Five years ago, while working on a farm during the summer, freshmen Andrew Perille was introduced to chewing tobacco for the first time and has been "dipping" ever since.

"It's become an addiction," said Perille. "I don't want to do it anymore, but I kind of have to."

Freshman Geoff Schultz agreed. "I haven't gone a day in four years without dipping. Sometimes I don't even want to, but I have to. I just need to have something in my lip or I go crazy," he said.

Like cigarettes, chewing tobacco doesn't come cheap.

"On average, in the last five years I've probably dipped a tin a day, at \$5 a tin that's about \$9,125," said Perille.

Not only is this habit costing these young men large amounts of money, their health is also being affected.

"I'm starting to get worried," said Schultz. "The dentist said I have a pocket in my gums."

Schultz is not alone in his worries.

"My doctor noticed too, he said I have abrasions on my gums," said Perille.

Although many believe that it is safer than smoking cigarettes, chewing tobacco comes with its own health consequences aside from the nicotine dependence.

According to QuitTobacco.com, "oral cancer is several times more common in users



The Spectrum/Nicole Giglia

of smokeless tobacco."

Chewing tobacco can also cause tooth decay, various kinds of gum disease, as well as cancerous lesions and sores known as Leukoplakia.

"I know it's a bad habit, and though I don't do it a lot, I can see the addiction forming," said freshman Nick Guglielmo. "I'm trying to quit."

For those interested in quitting, QuitTobacco.com offers several different techniques. One way is going "cold turkey," which works best for those who haven't been chewing for very long.

Since it is nicotine dependence, the Web site also suggests the nicotine patch or nicotine gum.

However, to battle the oral crave the site recommended, "chewing a healthier alternative," such as a nicotine free chew, sunflower seeds, or bubble gum.

"I've tried to quit multiple times," said Perille. "But I keep going back to it because I'm surrounded by it. Everyone of my friends do it."

TeenHealth.org offers advice for those who want to quit, but have a difficult time due to peer pressure. "When you decide to quit, don't do it alone. Tell friends or family and enlist their support."

Hungry? Why wait? Dine out at Chef's Table

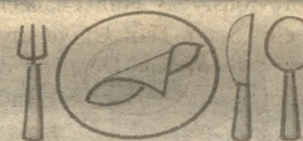


Photo Courtesy of Microsoft Clip Art

Andrew McCoy
Staff Reporter

Sunday comes and I awake to the sound of my alarm clock. A quick glance at the clock reveals it is near noon. My recollection of the evening is lost amongst the pain in my head and the hunger so strong it is literally making me nauseous. Time to get a decent meal I think, or so I can hope.

It's one of those days where the sun doesn't come out and you feel like sitting in bed all day. It's overcast, slightly chilly, and I am in no mood to be driving nor moving for that matter. But I am in search of the perfect lazy day meal, so I put my car in gear and head to Post Road from a recommendation.

After dealing with Conn. drivers, and worse yet, Fairfield traffic, I am in no mood for dealing with anyone or a bad meal. Mood or not though, I park the car across the street and make my way to a quaint little restaurant known as "Chef's Table."

Upon entering, the place already annoys me. Not only does it have the redundant two doors to get in, but worse yet it shares the first said door with the boutique next door causing a traffic jam of un-showered college boys like myself and yuppies alike. After the awkward dance, I make my way past a middle age woman and as I open the second door to

enter my destination I hear her scoff as I go.

Strike one, Chef's Table.

Inside, the restaurant at least offers something worth adoration. To my left, a man sings acoustic covers of the Rolling Stones. I make my way through the restaurant as he masterfully finger-picks his way through "Jumpin' Jack Flash." The walls are covered with rock memorabilia of some of the most obscure, and yet talented artists throughout the history of rock; think of it like a Fridays but with class, and a beautiful sense of music.

Finally, I make my way to an old deli style case featuring a plethora of sandwiches, wraps, and burritos. Above that stands an even larger menu of many more choices of food. To my right, a small juice bar featuring health drinks and smoothies, and to the right of that a "make your own burrito stand."

Though I admire the fact that they are able to offer so much food, it is a bit too much to take right now, but I know in the future, I will come to appreciate the fact that I could literally close my eyes and point at the floor, and probably point at a choice on one of the many menus they have.

The juice stand however, just doesn't seem to fit with what they are trying to do. For a place that focuses on trying to be a rustic sandwich shop with rock edge, the health drink bar just comes off a bit pretentious. We get it, you guys are hip,

but who really orders a wheatgrass shot with a buffalo chicken wrap?

Strike two.

And even sandwiches on the other hand are pretty obscure in themselves.

For the most part, the offerings are standard choices with a slight change; insert special sauce here. Add a out of the ordinary fruit or vegetable there.

Not that I am complaining. I am so hungry I could eat anything, but having no faith in my stomach's ability to hold in the restaurant's offerings, I order half a turkey burrito, and a pulled-pork sandwich; fairly standard.

For about \$7 each, the prices seem pretty reasonable.

I pass by the soup station and see they are all homemade from house recipes. I am a sucker for homemade chowder, so I grab a cup even at its pricey \$3.50 for a relatively small portion and make my way to the cashier to kiss another paycheck goodbye and have a seat.

Out of sheer comfort, I sit in a booth and begin to admire the furniture. Though the booth was normal in construction, Chef's Table was clever in their efforts to convert old tour cases for amplifiers into the tables. A nice touch to fit in with the atmosphere they try to create.

But with my stomach urging me, I look past the table and back at my food. I decide to try my pricey soup to see if I was ripped off or not. Having grown up on the shore in New England, I have

grown up with salt water in my veins and chowder in my stomach. I was pleasantly surprised at how good the soup actually was. Not too creamy, not too watery, and a clam in every bite; something rare to find especially in a smaller restaurant.

With my faith slightly restored, I looked next to my sandwich and burrito. Though nothing special in construction, but the burrito and pulled pork proved that appearance is nothing.

With all the right spices and good mixture of texture between the vegetables, meat, and beans, the burrito was a knock-out. I usually find myself reaching for hot sauce to give a burrito some moisture or flavoring, but I was able to eat this without hesitation.

The pulled pork was also just as good. Succulent, and well marinated while not being overly messy, I was quite pleased with it overall.

With my meal finally in my stomach, the nausea subdued, the headache passed, I make my way for the exit and think to myself, that even in its pompous nature, Chef's Table's food is reasonably priced and overall of high quality.

And I think, maybe the food is reason enough for their ego.

**OVERALL
GRADE: B+**

Sports

Scoreboard

Friday, March 27

W. Lacrosse

LIU- 10

SHU- 14

Baseball

Vermont- 9

SHU- 2

M. Tennis

SHU- 7

Hartford- 0

Saturday, March 28

W. Tennis

SHU- 7

Hartford- 0

Baseball

SHU- 4 7

Hartford- 8 3

Softball

Quinnipiac- 0 0

SHU- 2 1

M. Tennis

SHU-0

Villanova- 6

M. Volleyball

Stevens Tech- 3

SHU- 0

M. Lacrosse

Villanova- 7

SHU- 8 (5OT)

Sunday, March 29

W. Lacrosse

Bryant- 9

SHU- 19

M. Volleyball

Harvard- 3

SHU- 2

On Deck

Today

Tennis vs. Quinnipiac

2 p.m.

Softball @ Hartford

2:30 p.m.

Tomorrow

M. Tennis vs. Fordham

3 p.m.

Baseball vs. FDU

3 p.m.

W. Lacrosse vs. RMU

4 p.m.

Saturday, April 4

Baseball vs. FDU

1 p.m.



The Spectrum/Nicole Giglia

Sacred Heart's Dan Casciano (#21) eludes a Villanova defender during the Pioneers' game on March 28 at Campus Field. The Pioneers defeated Villanova 8-7 in five overtimes.

M. Lacrosse prevails in 5OT thriller

Matt Jarvis

Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University men's lacrosse team defeated the Villanova University Wildcats 8-7 in five overtimes on Saturday, March 27.

In addition to being the lacrosse team's first game this season under the newly installed lights at Campus Field, the game was also the longest in Sacred Heart men's lacrosse history.

"[Saturday's] game was a huge milestone for our program — monumental almost," said sophomore goaltender Zach Frank. "I think that right now we are showing people that we can be established as one of those teams that will not give up under pressure and will keep pushing."

Frank made 27 saves in net during the game's 80 minutes of play, breaking the school record for saves in a game.

Villanova outshot Sacred Heart 56-35 in the game, but that didn't stop Frank from racking up the saves in goal.

"Getting outshot like that was just something we had to work through together as a team and really dig deep to play hard," said Frank. "We knew that all we had to do was play with heart and we'd be fine."

Sacred Heart started off the first quarter strong with back-to-back goals from senior Bobby Rushton and junior Evan Morgan.

Villanova got on the board with 9:51 left in the quarter, but Sacred Heart junior Timmy Katz answered within a minute to keep the Pioneers ahead by two.

With three minutes left in the quarter, Villanova was able to find the back of the net once again to cut Sacred Heart's lead to just one.

"It took five days of work to make us suc-

cessful and able to last five overtimes with a team like Villanova," said Rushton. "I think the atmosphere of our first game under the lights at home and the crowd made us even more hungry for that win."

The Wildcats took a 4-3 lead in the second quarter with two goals and after tacking on

"Every person in this program stuck together and fought until the very end. This was an effort and commitment by the whole program to get this win."

-Head Coach Thomas Mariano

a pair in the third period, found themselves ahead 6-3 with time winding down in the third period.

However, senior Dan Casciano scored for the Pioneers with one minute left in the third quarter to start what would be the team's big comeback.

Sophomores Billy Skelos and Tim Russo scored within 40 seconds of each other to start off the final quarter and tie the game at 6-6.

Then, with 12:15 on the clock, Rushton scored his second goal of the game to give Sacred Heart a 7-6 lead.

It looked like Rushton's goal would be the deciding score, but Villanova's Tim Driscoll intercepted a Frank pass and squeezed the ball past the Pioneer goalie with 22 seconds remaining in regulation to send the game into overtime.

"We've been in situations where we're the underdog, and just coming into [Saturday's] game, we were to begin with," said Frank.

Villanova controlled the tempo through-

out most of the overtime periods by outshooting the Pioneers 17-8 including earning an 8-0 advantage in shots during the second overtime period.

"Sometimes you can't control the shots," said Rushton. "It's more the quality of shots than quantity and I think we performed well in that area."

With the Wildcats controlling most of the overtime possessions, Frank was up for the challenge and did not let a ball go by him in the fourth quarter or the over time periods.

"Zach [Frank] played phenomenal in the cage," said Rushton. "There was a whole overtime where we didn't even have the ball and he made some great stops."

While the Pioneers did not have many possessions in overtime, they were able to cash in when it counted the most as sophomore Jon Flood cut across toward the net and Katz sent a pass across to him.

As Flood was falling to the ground, he managed to squeeze the ball past Villanova's goaltender to give the Pioneers the dramatic win.

The goal came with just six seconds left in the fifth overtime.

For his effort on Saturday night, Frank was named the Colonial Athletic Association Player of the Week, Nike/Inside Lacrosse Division I Player of the Week and the Turfer/New England Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association Player of the Week from March 23-29.

"Every person in this program stuck together and fought until the very end. This was an effort and commitment by the whole program to get this win," said head coach Thomas Mariano.

The Pioneers will look to build on this "milestone" win when they travel to Maryland on April 4 to take on the Towson University Tigers. Game time is set for 2 p.m.

Santos, Heppner help Pioneers salvage win

Dan Cofiniotis
Staff Reporter

With the Sacred Heart University baseball team looking to add a win to their record, Mother Nature had other plans.

After winning the second game of a double-header in the ninth inning, 7-3, against the University of Hartford to snap their five-game losing streak, the Pioneers had their game on Sunday, March 29 cancelled due to rain. The game will not be made up.

The Pioneers could not seem to get the ball rolling to open the weekend as they extended their losing streak to five games after dropping both games of a doubleheader on Friday, March 27 against the University of Vermont. They also lost the first game of a double-header against Hartford on Saturday, March 28 by the score of 8-4.

The Pioneers went into Friday's game with a score to settle after being on a three-game losing streak. However, they could not seem to keep Vermont off the scoreboard as the Catamounts scored four unanswered runs over the first six innings of the game on Friday.

"Lately, we haven't been playing like we were in Florida or Louisiana when our bats were on fire," said junior Mike Drowne. "I think coming into this weekend we just have to get in the same mindset that we were in down there. We have to remember to have fun and stay loose."

Sophomore pitcher Matt Fitton pitched six innings and kept the game within reach by only giving up four runs. Two of the four runs he surrendered to the Catamounts came off a two-run home run by junior Ethan Paquette in the top of the third inning.

After Fitton was lifted from the game in the top of the seventh inning, junior Chris Zaccherio came in to put out the fire but the Catamounts added another run to extend their lead to 5-0 on a double down the left field line by sophomore Matt Duffy.

In the bottom of the seventh, the Pioneers got their only two runs of the game on an RBI single by senior Ryan Lynch, scoring freshman Hunter Phillips who doubled to lead off the inning.

Senior Tyler Santos got the Pioneers' second and final RBI of the game by doubling to the left-centerfield gap to score Lynch from second after he reached on an error. This gave the Pioneers a swing of momentum by cutting the lead to 5-2.

The Pioneers proceeded to give up four more runs in the top of the ninth inning to seal the deal for the Catamounts.

Two of the four RBIs came from another two-run home run - this time off the bat of sophomore Mark Micowski.

Game One of Saturday's doubleheader against the University of Hartford was a game the Pioneers needed to boost their morale and to snap their then four-game losing streak.

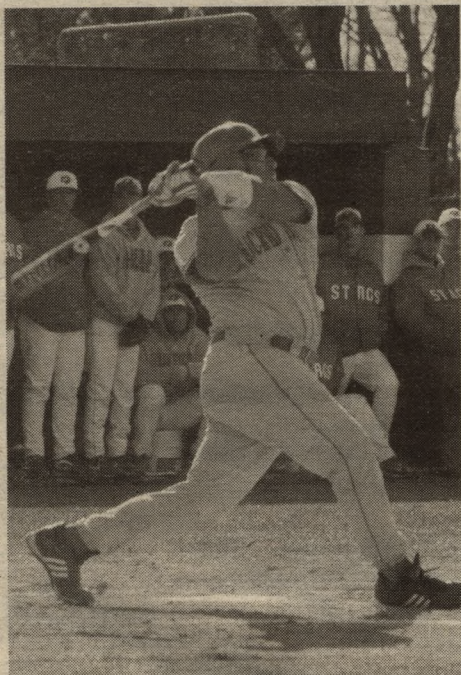
"All the pitchers need to throw strikes and keep us in ballgames," said Fitton. "We need to come out swinging, being aggressive, and hitting our pitches."

Senior pitcher Chris Barthel did just that to go along with a Pioneer offense that put four runs on the board early. Santos and freshman Mike Olszyk gave

the Pioneers a 2-0 lead in the first inning on RBI singles.

The Hawks' bats answered the two-run half inning immediately as Mike Amendola hit a two-run home run to left centerfield to tie the game at 2-2.

In the third inning, the Pioneers took the lead as senior Frank Bainer drove in a run on a sacrifice fly and classmate Phil



The Spectrum/Emily Gumbs
Sacred Heart's Frank Bainer (#33) takes a swing during the Pioneers' game against Fairfield on March 24.

Tantillo's RBI single gave the Pioneers and Barthel a 4-2 lead going into the fourth inning.

Barthel pitched with enthusiasm and poise as he did not allow a run after the first inning but was the victim of some shoddy fielding when Tantillo dropped a pop-up to shallow left-field which scored two runs and tied the game at 4-4 to force extra innings.

Olszyk then came in to relieve Barthel in the eighth inning and surrendered a game-winning grand slam to Bobby Gorski to give the Hawks an 8-4 win.

The Pioneers, now with a five-game losing streak, were in a bind.

"We had a bad taste in our mouths," said junior Jared Balbach, "We really wanted to win the last game."

With Balbach on the hill for the Pioneers and a "bad taste" going around the dugout, the Pioneers did not back down to the Hawks all game and fought to earn the win.

The Hawks got on the scoreboard first with the help of Amendola who smacked an RBI single which scored Simon Kudernatsch who had previously tripled. The RBI single gave Hartford a 1-0 lead.

Tantillo answered in the second when he led off the inning with a solo home run to tie the score at 1-1. In the bottom of the third, Hartford shortstop Jason Freethy hit a solo home run of his own to put the Hawks back ahead 2-1.

After three shutout innings by Balbach, freshman Robert Griffith tied the game for the Pioneers in the sixth inning when he went deep for his first collegiate home run.

See BASEBALL on page 15...

Women's Lacrosse extends win streak to four-straight

Stephanie Reyes
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University women's lacrosse team won their third and fourth straight games this past weekend against the Long Island University Blackbirds and the Bryant Bulldogs, respectively. Both games took place at Campus Field.

The Pioneers brought everything they had by scoring 14 points on Friday and a season-high 19 points on Sunday.

"This weekend got our record to .500 which is awesome," said senior Amanda Williams. "It's a great feeling to be on a winning streak and we need to continue that into this weekend as well."

The Pioneers started off the game on Friday with an unassisted goal by freshman Alicia Fuchs a little over 30 seconds into play.

That goal was followed shortly with one by junior Carissa Hauser, and then a few minutes later two more came through by Williams.

The score was now 4-0 with the Pioneers in the lead. They didn't stop there though as freshman Kate Kmiotek brought the score up to 5-0 just 50 seconds later with a goal.

The Blackbirds finally found the back of the net and brought the score up to 5-2, but that just lit more of a fire under the Pioneers because they then went on to score five more goals before the end of the first half.

The Blackbirds started their comeback with four consecutive goals in the second half, but the Pioneers were too far ahead

by that point and the game ended the game with a score of 14-10 in favor of the Pioneers.

Sunday went a little differently with Sacred Heart dominating the second half rather than the first.

Bryant's Mary Green started off the game with a goal at the 28:57 mark, but that lead didn't last long.

Hauser, Williams, Kmiotek, and senior Mary Montesarchio, gave the Pioneers a 4-1 lead with four consecutive goals.

The Bulldogs attempted a comeback with four goals in the first half, but Sacred Heart would have none of it as they scored five more to close out the first half.

The highlight of the game, however, came at the start of the second half when the Pioneers had seven consecutive goals within a span of six minutes.

The Bulldogs then began chipping away with two more goals but it was not enough to overcome the large deficit.

The Pioneers went on yet another scoring frenzy by scoring three more goals. The first came from sophomore Nicole Messina while the last two of the game were scored by junior Cori Horelik.

"We got everyone involved and were able to make things happen for all the attackers," said Williams. "Everyone played with confidence and that's what we need on the field."

Riding a four-game winning streak, the Pioneers will look to continue their winning ways in their next few games.

See WILLIAMS on page 14...



"AFTERNOON DELIGHT WITH ERIN"
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Sports

Russell shuts down Quinnipiac as Pioneers sweep

Chris Whittemore
Staff Reporter

Sophomore pitcher Jen Russell pitched a complete game shutout in game one and helped shut the door in game two to help the Pioneers pick up two wins over Quinnipiac University at Pioneer Park on Saturday, March 28, by the scores of 2-0 and 1-0, respectively.

She earned both wins on Saturday, the first two wins for the Pioneers in conference play. They are now 5-14 overall and 2-0 in the NEC.

"Jen pitched outstanding," said sophomore outfielder Taylor Froelich. "All of her pitches were working, she was hitting her spots, spinning the ball very well, and throwing hard."

At one point, Russell retired 19 straight hitters and struck out 10 in the first game.

"I didn't change much but just stayed confident in myself and the team behind me," said Russell. "I wasn't trying to get the strikeouts, but trying to make them hit ground balls."

Russell is 4-8 with a 2.36 ERA this season. In 74 innings pitched, she has struck out 59 batters and given up only 34 runs.

"Jen was untouchable yesterday," said senior second baseman Betsy Harvey. "When she pitches lights out like that I am so confident that we are going to do well in the league this year. She is such a dominating pitcher."

With the two wins, co-head coaches Elizabeth Luckie and Pam London reached the 400 win mark for their careers.

The Pioneers scored the only two runs of the game in the bottom half of the second inning. The rally started with a single to right center by sophomore first baseman Courtney Lee. Lee was 1-6 on the day but reached base three out of the six times.

"I just need to focus on doing my job in each situation that I'm put in and then everything else will fall into place," said Lee. "I need to just focus on making solid contact in key situations."

Freshman shortstop Alyssa Garza got her first RBI of the season by getting a bases loaded walk to put the Pioneers up 1-0 in the second.

That would be all that the Pioneers needed in the first game as senior outfielder Jessica Perez added a single to right field to increase the lead to 2-0. Perez is hitting .282 with an on-base percentage of .353 on the season.

"We need to continue to play with the intensity and the fire we had against Quinnipiac," said Harvey. "We have so much talent this year and we're going to be hard to beat if we believe in ourselves and leave everything on the field every game."

Harvey is hitting .240 with a slugging percentage of .400. She has one home run and eight RBIs on the season.

"With this being my senior year I feel like it's time for me to relax and play the best I can," said Harvey. "I've always been the type of player that I play every

game like it's my last. I want to go as far as possible in the league this year so hopefully I can motivate my team to play up to our potential and play hard every day."

Freshman pitcher Liz Tsipouras started the second game of the doubleheader and tossed four and one-third innings of shutout ball. Tsipouras is 1-6 with a 3.97 ERA.

"I think Liz is working her way to be an awesome pitcher," said sophomore catcher Shannon McCoy.

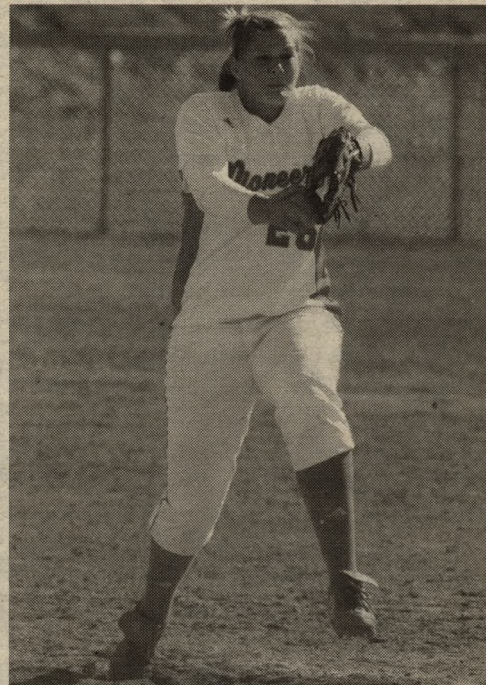
McCoy is hitting .310 on the year with two home runs and six RBIs. Her slugging percentage is near .500 and her on-base percentage is at .341.

McCoy had the only RBI of the game by driving in junior outfielder Adrian Fitzsimon in the bottom half of the fifth.

Russell came on to close out the game – and the day – by getting a one, two, three sixth and striking out the side in the seventh.

"In order for us as a team to continue and be successful we are going to have to keep playing as a team and remember that we all have one common goal, to make it to NECs," said sophomore infielder Jasmin Vicente. "We just need to focus on practicing and playing hard and keep doing what we have been doing up to this point."

The Pioneers were scheduled to finish their four game series against the Bobcats on Sunday, March 29 but the games were rained out.



The Spectrum /Zack Lane

Sacred Heart's Jen Russell (#26) pitches during the Pioneers' 3-0 win against CCSU on March 31 at Pioneer Park.

The Pioneers defeated Central Connecticut State University 3-0 in the first game of a doubleheader on March 31.

Harvey went 2-3 with an RBI for the Pioneers and Russell picked up the win on the mound, scattering five hits over seven innings.

The Pioneers return to the diamond today when they take on the University of Hartford Hawks at 2:30 p.m. in Hartford.

Williams scores 10 goals in two games to lead SHU

...CONTINUED from page 13

"We just have to continue to play like a team and build on what we have so far," said junior Jackie Pierce. "We can't be complacent just because we are at .500 right now. We are on a winning streak so we have to work harder now because we have some big games coming up in the next couple of weeks."

The big games mentioned by Pierce are

against Robert Morris University Colonials, Mount St. Mary's College Mountaineers, and the Monmouth University Hawks.

"Our next few conference games are going to be very competitive," said Montesarchio. "We are all working to get to the tournament..."

The Pioneers host Robert Morris tomorrow at Campus Field at 4 p.m.

Athlete auction draws big crowd

Katie Costantino
Contributing Reporter

Going once...going twice....sold.

Sacred Heart University's first annual athlete auction sponsored by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) took place last Wednesday, March 25.

Hundreds of Sacred Heart students packed the University Commons to get the chance to win a date with their favorite athlete or to watch the auctioning off of the athletes.

The Pioneers' mascot, Big Red, kept up the crowds' enthusiasm as the bidding increased from five dollars, to ten dollars, and up to two hundred fifty dollars.

The event exceeded all expectations, earning close to \$4,000 which will benefit the Lisa Moray Memorial Scholarship Fund. Moray, a former student and women's basketball player, died last summer in

a car accident. Moray played proudly and with dedication for the Pioneers women's basketball team. In 2006, Moray helped lead her team to win the NEC championships and continue on to the NCAA Tournament.

The Lisa Moray Memorial Scholarship Fund, established by her family, friends and teammates, will be awarded annually to a female athlete who exhibits Moray's drive for excellence in athletics, academics, and in life.

"The auction was a blast!" said senior Allie O'Leary. "[Sacred Heart] should do it every year."

The event was such a success that it will be held in the Edgerton Center in future years to accommodate the large crowd.

The athletes and their highest bidders spent Monday night at Vazzy's 19th Hole Restaurant overlooking the Fairchild Wheeler Greens.

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M. Volleyball 'rusty' after weekend sweep

Team had not played a match in over two weeks

Dan Repetti
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart men's volleyball team suffered a weekend sweep at the hands of Stevens Institute of Technology and Harvard University, 3-0 and 3-2, respectively.

After a nearly two-week period between games, the Pioneers dusted off the cobwebs and came out somewhat rusty against Stevens Tech.

"We prepared for these two matches the same way we've been preparing for any match all season," said sophomore Matt Somerville. "We did the same things in practice and just worked on getting better in order to play against Stevens Tech."

From the start of the match, Stevens Tech applied a great deal of pressure on the Pioneers. Behind outside hitter Tomas Bochicchio's 15 kills, one service ace, and a handful of blocks the Pioneers found themselves in an early hole and searching for an answer.

Stevens Tech took the first set convincingly, 30-17, over the Pioneers who had to regroup and come out with a higher intensity to avoid being down 2-0.

The Ducks came out in the second set with the same mentality as they had in the first, only this time they were led by senior middle hitter Andrew Canford who registered seven kills and tacked on four blocks to lead his team to a 30-25 second set victory.

The Pioneers were facing a do-or-die situation in which they had to win the next

three sets in order to take the match.

Down two sets to the Ducks, it looked like the Pioneers would finally turn things around.

But they could not seem to get over the hump as the Ducks went on to win the third and final set of the match 30-25 to complete the sweep.

"We need to play the same style and have the same execution throughout every point of every match no matter what the score says," said Somerville. "The problem with the Stevens match was that it was our first match in about two weeks so we were a little rusty and just couldn't execute enough."

After a disappointing loss to Stevens Tech, the Pioneers had to regroup quickly as they hosted Harvard on Saturday.

The Pioneers took a 5-2 lead to start the first set, but they just couldn't hold on as the Crimson regained the lead, 8-6, forcing a Pioneer timeout.

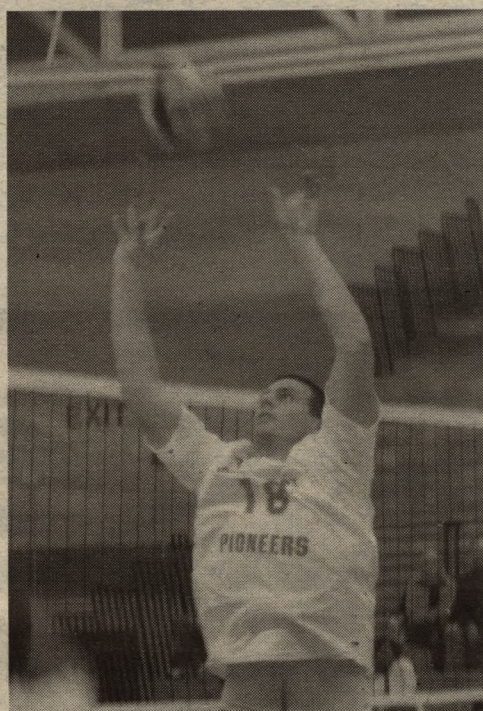
After the timeout, the Pioneers came out looking to regain the lead and that's exactly what they did.

With junior Kalani Efstathiou leading the way, the Pioneers jumped back into the lead at 22-19.

But the Crimson wouldn't let the set slip away that easily as Matt Jones added three kills to make the score 29-25 to complete the Crimson comeback. A blocked shot would give the first set to Harvard.

In the second set, the Crimson picked up right where they left off by jumping out to a 4-1 lead.

But the Pioneers battled back and took a 12-7 lead midway through the second



The Spectrum /Nicole Giglia
Sacred Heart's Tim Sadowski (#18) digs a ball during the Pioneers' match against Harvard at the Pitt Center.

set.

A few costly errors cut the Pioneer lead down to two points, 23-21, but the Pioneers held on to take the second set 30-25.

With the Pioneers up 25-23 in the third set, Harvard called a timeout which turned out to be a smart move as they rallied to take a 27-25 lead over the Pioneers.

However, the Pioneers would not succumb to the pressure as they put four

straight points on the board including a pair of aces from sophomore Roger Parent. Senior Barry Smith then landed a kill to win the set for the Pioneers, 30-28.

Looking to end the match in the fourth set, the Pioneers took the lead early by killing three balls and blocking a Harvard spike attempt to make the score 4-1.

Harvard and Sacred Heart kept battling back and forth and with the score at 16-15, the Pioneers took a timeout.

Sophomore Will Kelleher blocked two straight balls and then set an ace to make the score 21-18 in favor of the Pioneers.

Facing match point, the Pioneers had the advantage but with a shank from Kelleher, the score was now tied at 30 a piece and Harvard won the set with a kill of their own.

Both teams came onto the court looking to pick up the win in the shortened set.

With the set tied at 11, the Pioneers called a timeout. After setting a game plan, the Crimson blocked two Pioneer shots to make the score 13-11.

But Efstathiou picked up an ace and a kill to cut the Harvard lead to 14-13, but it wasn't enough as the Crimson won the set 15-13.

"We gave ourselves every chance to be successful but just made stupid errors," said Somerville.

Efstathiou had 24 kills and 13 digs to lead the Pioneers while Parent added 22 kills and nine digs.

The Pioneers will travel to Newark, N.J. tomorrow to take on Rutgers-Newark University at 7:35 p.m.

Baseball: Pioneers drop two of three weekend games

...CONTINUED from page 13

Olszyk gave the Pioneers the lead for the first time in the game in the eighth inning with a solo home run of his own. The long ball was his third of the season.

But Hartford's Amendola was not done yet.

After hitting a home run in game one of the doubleheader, he ripped his second homer of the day to tie the score at 3-3 in the bottom of the eighth inning.

The Pioneers pulled away from the Hawks in the ninth inning by scoring four runs to seal the victory.

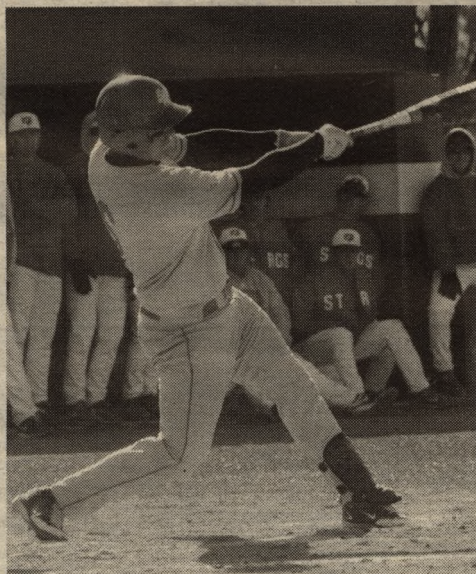
Santos drove in the winning run on an RBI single to make the score 4-3 after sophomore MJ Schifano led off the inning with a single and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by senior Paul Schmidt.

Senior Jeff Heppner then gave the Pioneers three insurance runs with two runners on base as he hit a deep shot to left field which went over the wall to give Heppner a three-run homer to make the score 7-3.

Freshman James Ineson came in for the ninth to close out the game in relief of Balbach, who pitched eight innings, only giving up three runs on eight hits.

Conference play begins this weekend for the Pioneers which will ultimately decide their place in the division as well as the playoff picture down the road.

"We've been up and down the last few games but all in all we feel really well about the situation we're currently in," said



The Spectrum/Emily Gumbs
Sacred Heart's Jeff Heppner (#6) takes a swing during the Pioneers game against Fairfield on March 24.

Balbach.

The Pioneers have four home games this weekend against Fairleigh Dickinson University at The Ballpark at Harbor Yard.

The first game will take place tomorrow at 3 p.m.

Saturday is a double header with first pitch slated for noon and thirty minutes following the conclusion of game one.

The series concludes on Sunday with the first pitch scheduled for noon.

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SPORTS

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DRIVE
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Lacrosse tops
Villanova in five
overtimes

The Spectrum/Nicole Giglia

Sacred Heart's Brendan Foley (#29) carries the ball upfield during the Pioneers' game against Villanova on March 28 at Campus Field.



The Spectrum/Emily Gumbs

GOING DEEP

Baseball team beats Hartford
page 13

FOUR STRAIGHT

Women's lacrosse builds win streak
page 13



The Spectrum/Zack Lane