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SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY
FAIRFIELD, CT

SPECTRUM



President Obama signs the health care legislation into law on Tuesday accompanied by lawmakers and distinguished guests.

AP Photo

Health care change has come *Obama's bill passes Sunday at 219-212 vote*

Courtney Perlee
Chief Copy Editor

There is perhaps an end in sight for the controversy and debate that has surrounded the idea of health care reform for the past year.

On Sunday night, March 21, the House of Representatives passed the legislation in a 219-212 vote, the final step required before President Barack Obama could sign his health care legislation into law.

All Republicans in the House opposed the bill, as

well as 34 Democrats. When the Senate passed the bill along to the House of Representative; it was also without Republican support; their vote was 60-39 in December of last year.

The president took to the East Room in the White House on Tuesday morning, surrounded by more than 200 Democrats who supported the bill, as well as almost a hundred other special guests.

"Jubilant was in the air" at the White House, said an Associated Press (AP) article, as onlookers cheered and celebrated while President Obama signed the Patient Pro-

See **PRESIDENT'S** on page 4...

Pick up our next issue on Apr. 15 and check out "10 ways the health care bill will affect students."

How do you feel about the health care bill? Write a letter to the editor to spectrum@sacredheart.edu and let us know your opinion.

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Spring Events

April 1

Beachside soccer

April 7

-Linda Greenhouse speaks at 7 p.m. in the Schine Auditorium

-Comedian Geoff Keith performs in the Faculty Lounge

April 10

-Dorm wars BBQ for the freshman class

April 11

-Dorm wars begin

Tug-of-war and balloon toss on Flik patio

-Pioneer Pull

-Fairy Godmother Initiative Prom Dress Boutique

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Conn. economy less affected by recession

Erin Murtagh
Staff Reporter

University of Connecticut economics teacher Steven Lanza received national attention last week when he released information indicating that the state of Connecticut was not as heavily affected by the recession as most other states.

According to an article by the Associated Press, he said the state did not partake in what he called a home building frenzy. Because of this, the state has not been affected by the recession as severely as others.

"Different states and regions often have different degrees of pain during recessions," said Russell Engel, assistant professor of economics at Sacred Heart University.

According to Engel, southern and southwestern states were hit hardest by the recession.

"In the current downturn, states like Florida, Arizona, California and Nevada have been hurt very badly. This stems from massive amounts of speculation and over investment in real estate."

This is a consequence of false assumptions by developers and real estate investors.

"During the housing bubble, people in these states could convince themselves that speculation was a prudent investment because baby boomer retirees would want to move someplace warm," said Engel.

While Engel said Connecticut did participate in the housing frenzy, he said it was on a lesser scale. This, he attributes to its

geographic location.

Population density, availability of land permits, and the amount of land available to develop are also viable factors in the state's slighter participation.

The recession, which began with a trend of mortgage defaults in 2007, has had lasting effects on these southern and southwestern states.

As of Mar. 10, Arizona is ranked number 28 in the Bureau of Labor's unemployment statistic rankings. With a 9.2 percent unemployment rate, it does not exceed the nation's 9.7 percent, but its greater than that of Connecticut by two tenths of a percent.

Florida, which is ranked 45, California, which is ranked 47, and Nevada, which is ranked 50, all exceed the national percentage by a significant margin with 11.9, 12.5 and 13 percent respectively.

Regardless of the degree to which Connecticut was impacted by the housing frenzy, the state is not exempt from all economic turmoil.

"Just because Connecticut isn't being hit the hardest, it doesn't mean Connecticut citizens are not being hit," said Engel.

"The Connecticut Economy," the University of Connecticut quarterly economic review, for which Lanza is a contributor, offers solutions to improving the state's index of employment coincidence.

The solutions include an increase in hours and wages for employees, as well as an increase in employment opportunities.

"New jobs must be abundant enough to absorb those currently unemployed plus new entrants to the labor force before the jobless rate will decline."

SHU OFFERS HAITIAN CREOLE CLASS TO AID RELIEF VOLUNTEERS

Janelle Cracco
Staff Reporter

As the efforts continue to aid Haiti in recovering, Sacred Heart University has developed a program to better the communication between volunteers and natives.

Running now through May 7, the course is being held at the Stamford campus for two hours on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. While the course costs \$200, Sacred Heart will donate 25 percent of the fees to the Haitian community.

The seven week long course is being taught by communications professor Anie Dubosse, a native Haitian who has been part of the Sacred Heart community since 2006.

"The objective of the class is to help volunteers, who will be going to Haiti, to communicate directly with Haitians and understand them in their social and cultural context," said Dubosse. "The Creole class is an introduction to Haitian Creole and culture."

Born and raised in Haiti, Dubosse hopes that this class will eliminate the communication barrier and make certain of greater results in the recovery process of Haiti.

"What is very important, is for students to understand the culture and customs of the Haitian world and how to address Haitians, in the hope that their experience will be all the more successful," said Madeline Monaghan, director of the Sacred

Heart English Language Institute (SHELI).

Once a part-time instructor of Le Francais des Affaires in Haiti, with relatives still in Haiti, Dubosse was personally affected by the disaster and lost three cousins.

"There is no word that can describe the emotional impact this catastrophe has on me," said Dubosse. "Everything that marked my childhood is destroyed."

Haiti is still in need of assistance, and with the new Haitian Creole class being offered, the university hopes to contribute to their needs.

"What is very important, is for students to understand the culture and customs of the Haitian world and how to address Haitians, in the hope that their experience will be all the more successful."

-Madeline Monaghan

Director of the Language Institute

Dubosse talks very highly of her native country and believes that Haitians may not possess material wealth but are very rich in faith.

"Unfortunately Haitians still need a competent and responsible leader who is capable of abiding to the rule of law to lead this nation to development and prosperity," said Dubosse. "Then, there will be opportunities to allow Haitians to evolve to the best they can be."

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David Tracy receives inaugural SHU medal

Cernera distributes first annual inaugural medal

Rob Coloney
Staff Reporter

Honoring the celebration of the Catholic Tradition, Dr. Anthony Cernera, president of Sacred Heart, chose David Tracey to be the first ever recipient of the Sacred Heart University medal.

Tracey is a Greely Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Catholic Studies at the University of Chicago Divinity School who currently writes, teaches and is a priest in the diocese of Bridgeport.

"I decided to initiate the medal this year when I was thinking about Father Tracy being here. I have wanted to start this tradition for years and he is certainly the right person to start it with," said Cernera. "Sacred Heart University is nationally and even internationally known for its leadership in being a steward of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition. Honoring outstanding people who contribute to that tradition is a good thing to do."

Dr. Cernera wanted to give Sacred Heart a new award, but the idea was founded with what is already being done on campus.

"Many Catholic universities have special awards that they give to people for various reasons. That is also true for us," said Cernera. "For example, we have the Curtis medal, named after the founder of the university and given to a person who has made an outstanding contribution to the university, the Church or the world."

Father Tracy is well-recognized for his revolutionary

involvement in the Catholic tradition.

"David Tracy is one of the preeminent Catholic theologians writing and teaching today," said Dr. Brian Stiltner, a professor in the religious studies department. "His work has been ground-breaking, in that he has challenged theology to confront boldly the challenges that secularism, pluralism, and postmodernism create for theology. It is appropriate for Sacred Heart University to recognize someone who has been so instrumental in bringing the Catholic intellectual tradition into dialogue with the contemporary world."

As something he strives to emphasize in Sacred Heart's mission, Dr. Cernera added the importance of Tracy's teachings gives him prominence in the intellectual community.

"Father Tracy is probably the most outstanding Catholic intellectual in the United States," said Cernera.

Aside from being a well-respected speaker, and professor, Father Tracy has written many books relative to Catholic tradition, and received an honorary Sacred Heart University Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 2008, according to Sacred Heart's press release.

According to the national Catholic publication America, "David Tracy's attention to method in theology and his far-ranging eclecticism demonstrates the breadth of the Catholic analogical imagination. His ability to converse with virtually the whole range of Western humanistic intellectual culture has preserved the Catholic Intellectual Tradition in the secular academy as few others have."

Tracy has also made personal contributions to the

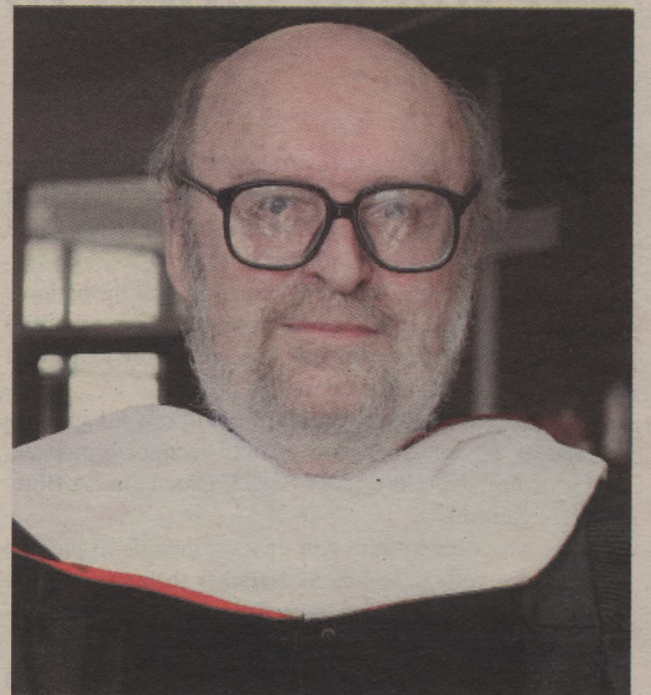


Photo courtesy of John Galayda

Father David Tracy receives the Sacred Heart University Medal.

He has served on the university's Committee on the Analysis of Ideas and Methods and the Committee on Social Thought," according to the press release, in addition to writing and teaching within the Bridgeport diocese.

Professor writes book on phone interviews

Tips on how to avoid the common pitfalls on the phone

Alyssa Scott
News Editor

All of a sudden the phone rings and you look down at your cell phone to see the name of your potential future employer flashing on the screen. Picking up the phone, you answer "Hi..."

According to Paul Baillo, the author of "The Official Phone Interview Handbook" and business professor at Sacred Heart University, you just made your first mistake.

In an effort to aid his students in the phone interview process, Baillo began examining an art that had not yet been perfected.

"A lot of my students were having trouble getting work, and they can never get through the phone interview," said Baillo.

Pioneering his company Interview Pro, Baillo hopes to coach people through the interviewing process.

CNN Money states that there are an average of eight applicants for every job opening, and phone interviews are a quick, cost effective way to screen candidates.

"The first five minutes of a phone interview are the most important, since only about two out of 10 people will still be under consideration beyond that," Annie Stevens, a managing partner at Boston executive coaching firm ClearRock, told CNN Money.

Seeing as time is crucial, Baillo felt his tips might help many avoid the common pitfalls on the phone.

"It's the way you say it, how you say it, the words you use, all start painting a mental picture in that person's head," said Baillo.

However, his book does not just help the student population. With many Americans drowning in unemployment rates, job competition has increased, making a phone interview a crucial step in getting a foot in the door.

"It's all about the people and this is my way of helping them," said Baillo.

TIPS FROM PROFESSOR BAILO ON PHONE INTERVIEWING

Get Dressed up

"Don't wear shorts or sweats. You get a significant increase in your phone interviews when you dress up."

Get Their Picture

"As you're talking look at the picture so it's like a real face to face interview. It will help people to be calmer and more focused."

Don't Use Your Cell Phone

"You don't want any distraction or noise. If there is a land line the phone quality is better, and there is less chance of losing the call."

Although Baillo has drawn attention to CNN Money and other press, he sees no end in sight. Since his book was such a large success, he plans to expand to cover future methods of interviewing such as Skype or video chat. In addition, he intends to cover the grounds of the face to face interview.

"This is not only a new company, but also a whole new industry; it's exciting for us, of course, but the real excitement generated by Phone Interview Pro will come from those who hone their skills using the service," said Baillo.

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Obama plans to reshape No Child Left Behind law *President labels one in three American schools as failing*

Michele Tymann
Staff Reporter

The Obama administration released its blueprint to revise the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to overhaul President George W. Bush's 2002 No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), on March 13.

While NCLB has named over one-third of the nation's schools as failing, the Obama administration proposed plans to change the standards for education to reward achievement instead of recognizing failures.

"Instead of labeling failures, we will reward success. Instead of a single snapshot, we will recognize progress and growth," wrote President Barack Obama in "A Blueprint for Reform."

The proposed system will enact standards to prepare students for college and a career rather than being proficient in math and English in each grade level – the standard for the current NCLB Act.

"It seems to me that the total focus on evaluating schools on their mathematics and reading assessments denies the importance for K-12 students to learn in other content areas and to learn reading and mathematics in the other areas," said professor Lois Libby, co-director of the internship program for education.

Other than English and math, the new education act will support states in initiating a more comprehensive education that includes science, technology, history, civics, foreign languages, the arts and other subjects, according to the blueprint.

Many of the changes to the system are important, but the new terminology is disconcerting to some professors.

"The change in the timeline will allow states and school districts more time to meet the goal of college ready students, but the goal 'college ready' has not been defined," said Libby. "I am concerned that this change of emphasis will take the focus away from consideration of pre-school programs for public funding."

According to the blueprint, four out of every 10 new college students currently take remedial courses, and many employers have commented on the lack of acceptable preparation of students for life after high school.

The plan calls for "state-developed, college- and ca-

reer-ready standards," and to measure what students are learning with better assessments and more accuracy.

Greater equity is also emphasized in the new plan.

"To give every student a fair chance to succeed, and give principals and teachers the resources to support student success, we will call on school district and states to take steps to ensure equity, by such means as moving toward comparability in resources between high- and low-poverty schools," states the blueprint.

Equal opportunities and resources are important factors in reshaping the education system according to some professors.

"Give all children the time and resources to learn the skills, acquire the content, and develop the habits of heart that will improve their lives and the lives of others irrespective of physical and cultural differences," said professor Edward Joyner, director of the five year masters education program.

The new legislation also includes a Race to the Top program, which will "provide competitive grants to states and school districts to take on ambitious and comprehensive reforms, and to encourage the broad identification, dissemination, adoption, and use of effective policies and practices."

These new incentives may result in less funding for school districts that are already struggling.

"The incentives that the Obama legislation provides for providing dollars and flexibility to schools who demonstrate big gains in academic performance will probably mean that he will encourage more charter schools and other schools outside the bureaucracies of school districts," said Libby. "This would mean that school districts will possibly receive fewer dollars."

One part of the proposed plan that has many teachers across the country unsure is the emphasis on teacher effectiveness.

"Our goal must be to have a great teacher in every classroom and a great principal in every school," wrote Obama in the blueprint. "We know that from the moment students enter a school, the most important factor in their success is not the color of their skin or the income of their parents – it is the teach standing at the front of the classroom."



AP Photo

President Obama and his administration released a blueprint last week to change standards for education.

The American Federation of Teachers, which represents more than 1.4 million educators in the nation, issues a statement criticizing the new plan, the Associated Press (AP) reported.

"It just doesn't make sense to have teachers – and teachers alone – bear the responsibility for school and student success," said their statement. "It appears from our first review that despite some promising rhetoric, this blueprint places 100 percent of the responsibility on teachers and gives them zero percent authority."

Some professors agree that too much responsibility and blame is being placed on the teachers.

"Teachers are among the most under appreciated professionals in our nation," said Joyner. "They are blamed when kids do not learn at the pace determined by bureaucrats and seldom celebrated when kids do exceptionally well."

HAVE OBAMA'S DECISIONS AFFECTED HIS APPROVAL RATINGS?

Elizabeth Fish
Staff Reporter

The issue of health care in the United States as proposed by President Obama has stirred things up for Americans everywhere. The controversies of health care, along with other issues such as education and government spending, have overall affected Obama's approval ratings.

According to an Associated Press (AP) poll that took place between March 3 and March 8, 53 percent of Americans approve of Obama's decisions and propositions, while 46 percent do not approve (with one percent categorized as "other").

These ratings have gradually dropped as compared to the poll results from Nov.

2009. The approval ratings have decreased roughly 15 percent between Nov. 2009 and March 2010, as stated on pollster.com.

The approval of Americans for Obama started dropping the most significantly when the issue of health care was brought to attention.

"A huge sticking point between the Republicans and the Democrats is whether to create a public plan – in effect, a government-run insurance plan, which would be competing against private plans in what would be an online marketplace," said the Wall Street Journal.

Aside from the controversial issue of health care in the United States, Obama has also addressed education.

Whitehouse.gov said that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act fo-

cused greatly upon education in order to provide jobs and create prosperity. Part of this act passed by Obama includes \$5 billion for early learning programs.

For junior Samantha Latulippe, Obama's influence on education has influenced her view on him.

"I never approved of Obama in the first place, but my approval rating has gone down because he supported the firing of 93 people in the Central Falls school district because they were considered a failing school," said Latulippe.

"Teachers are only able to do so much without the help and support of the government."

Each of these issues may affect the upcoming midterm elections.

According to the New York Times

(NYT) Web site, "With the President's approval rating now dipping below 50 percent in most polls, Democratic pollsters have begun to sound the alarm. In a recent public memo, Celinda Lake, of Lake Research Partners, pointed to a sobering statistic: Presidents with approval ratings below 50 percent have lost an average of 41 House seats in mid-term elections."

For other students, however, Obama's views on some of these issues do not negatively affect their views on his presidency.

Junior Joey Wallis said, "I've supported President Obama from the beginning and I will continue to show support. I think things will run their course and turn out for the best."

President's new plan extends insurance to reach more Americans

...CONTINUED from page 1.

tection and Affordable Care Act.

"The bill I'm signing will set in motion reforms that generations of Americans have fought for and marched for and hungered to see," said Obama.

The law is a nearly \$1 trillion overhaul "that ranks among the biggest changes ever devised by Washington and will reshape the way virtually every American receives and pays for treatment,"

said AP.

The health care system currently makes up a sixth of the U.S. economy, and for the first time ever, insurance coverage will be considered as the right of every U.S. citizen.

The heart of the law will extend health care coverage to 32 million who are currently uninsured, although AP points out that most of the law's "far-reaching

changes" won't go into effect until 2014—including the requirement that most Americans have health insurance.

Even as the bill was being signed, Congress was already working to finish the overhaul of the act, adding a "companion measure containing changes demanded as a condition of House Democrats' approval," said AP.

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EDITORIALS

5

Sticking to your New Year's resolution: It's not easy but you just might surprise yourself

Lindsay Caiati
Asst. PR Manager



So I'll admit I'm about a year behind in the New Year's resolution game, but after years of making and breaking them I have finally succeeded in adhering to one. From 2009, that is.

Rather than come up with a new resolution I figured I would finish what I started the year before, and try something I had never done before.

Back in November I had summoned enough courage to do something that I had always intended on doing but, never actually followed through with, and nervously auditioned for Sacred Heart's production of RENT.

This is where my resolution got challenging. Sure I was trying a new thing, but I was also facing something I had successfully avoided throughout high school until now: singing in front of an audience.

I had listened to friends and family tell me to audition for school plays, but I always found myself committed to something else at the time, but secretly I was glad. This time was different. I

went to the audition without telling my friends making this something I would do solely for myself.

I had prepared to sing "The Wizard and I" from the Broadway production of "Wicked", and while waiting in the lobby of the Edgerton Center for the Performing Arts, I contemplated leaving twice but, in fear of regretting my decision and failing at yet another New Year's resolution, I stayed and I am so incredibly glad I did.

Conquering my fear and doing something new was probably the most liberating feeling in the world, and to top it off I made it into the play as part of the ensemble.

Not only did I achieve my goal, but my newfound bravery helped me to not be scared to try other new things, and now I am reaping the benefits. Now that full cast rehearsals have started I have met a bunch of new people, and I have quickly realized that Sacred Heart has an abundance of talented students.

From the outstanding principal cast to the ensemble, the talent is limitless and it has been both inspiring and fun to be a part of such an exciting frontier at Sacred Heart, as RENT will be the first production put on as part of the new Theatre Arts Program.

"We're very excited about the play, it's sort of daunting because it's so new, but every-



Courtesy of Broadway.tv

The Broadway cast of RENT performs during the closing of the show in 2008. The Sacred Heart production of RENT will be April 15-17.

one is really stepping up," said sophomore John Vasey, who plays one of the leads as Rodger.

I think I speak for everyone when I say we're all really excited to be a part of this show.

"I was surprised with the cast and I was kind of iffy to see how good everyone would be; but everything is really going so well," said freshman Paul Capadona, who plays the lead of Mark. "Now that the ensemble is coming together it's really good. I'm just hoping this goes well so that we'll prosper in

the future.

I know January has come and gone, and that the New Year is now simply this year, but I challenge you all to try something new, whether it be a club sport, or a class you're interested in that's outside of your major. You'd be surprised to find the opportunities that arise when branching out and breaking the barriers of your comfort zone. After all you have nothing to lose and everything to gain, no matter what you decide to do.

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EDITOR'S CHOICE

Favorite photos taken by your Spectrum staff



Jackie Kennedy
Assistant Photography Editor

This picture was taken while I was on a seven day cruise. This picture was taken at Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia. I like this picture because it was a beautiful day and the scenery was amazing.

Beware of senioritis: don't let it happen to you

Sam Dowd
Staff Reporter

Senioritis has set in at Sacred Heart University.

Graduation is just under two months away and seniors are checking out. But this is neither new, nor specific to Sacred Heart.

Kathy LaFontana, associate professor and chair of the psychology department, suggests a study out of the University of Illinois for evidence of the "Senior Slump" as far back as 1949.

Gerald Carter, a researcher at the University of Illinois asked instructors at Purdue University to rate their students over the course of their eight terms in college. The students were evaluated in several different categories such as cooperation, responsibility and physical stamina.

"The decline in the senior year is rather striking," noted Carter in the study. He wasn't able to determine a specific reason for the slump, but said it was probably due to "a somewhat wholesome declaration of independence on the part of the students."

Senior Katie Higgins admitted she caught the bug.

"I don't have solid plans after graduation yet. They are in the works though, and I know that once I get these plans finalized, senioritis is going to be 10 times worse."

Senior Briana Berberich has a similar take.

"I don't want to do anything, and nor do I think I should do anything," she said. "Senioritis for me feels like an annoyance with classes and professors. I feel like they shouldn't be giving us any work because it's our last semester."

For some seniors who still have work to do, thoughts on senioritis are different.

"I'm not sure if senioritis has set in yet, I still have to write my thesis," said senior Jen Kinney.

In addition to work, part of the difference is in what is next for her.

"I was ready to move on, yet now there's this whole big world out there that I'm not completely ready for," said Kinney.

She said her experience with senioritis in college is very different from her experience in high school.

"In high school, once I got into Sacred Heart I kind of checked out," she said. "Now, two months from graduation, I only have a part time job lined up for when I graduate and I haven't heard about grad school yet."

According to LaFontana, this bout of senioritis is nothing she hasn't seen before.

"I have seen senioritis set in every year that I have been at Sacred Heart. Sometimes it is a little worse than other times," she said. "If the weather is really nice, and if there are frequent breaks (like spring break and Easter break), especially when those breaks are close together, everyone is distracted, not just seniors. But it seems that seniors are more susceptible to these distractions because they are so close to the end of their studies."

While Berberich, Kinney, Higgins, and the rest of the class of 2010 may be well on their way to freedom, Higgins noted the one thing keeping her grounded.

"With graduation around the corner, it's so hard to focus, but there is always that scary factor of knowing that if you don't pass your classes you won't graduate. I think that's pretty much what is keeping me in check right now."

'ELECTION, WHAT ELECTION?'

Sam Dowd
Staff Reporter

In the 2009 Princeton Review of the 371 Best Colleges, Sacred Heart University was given the number two spot in "Election, What Election?" indicating the lack of interest students have in politics. This apathetic attitude is echoed by students in the halls.

"I really don't care about it to be honest," said sophomore Vinny Bianco. For him, it's the idea that a person's vote doesn't really matter. "You really can't change what happens. We don't have much say," he said.

For Kristina Bostley, graduate assistant in The Factory, politics is one of those things that she doesn't pay attention to unless it affects her directly. "I'm happy to listen and learn, but as far as participating myself, I just don't have the knowledge," she said.

Junior Marcella Repetto has a genuine interest in politics, but she said, "My friends aren't interested in it, so I don't talk about it much at school." When she goes home, she enjoys a political discussion, as long as it stays respectful on both sides.

Junior Heather Gambacorto said she is uneducated on politics, but she still cares. Even though she may not know much about what policies are being passed, or the

views of each candidate in an election, she realizes the importance of our political system.

"I care about politics because this is our country. I obviously want the best for our country and I care about our rights. If we don't participate or vote then we won't have our say," she said.

Sacred Heart does have a few politically-minded clubs. The College Republicans and the College Democrats are both active clubs on campus.

According to their description on the Sacred Heart Web site, "The College Republicans is an active campus organization that sponsors speakers, voter registration drives, and political debates. The club is very active in federal, state and local elections and encourages students to become involved in the American political process."

Similarly, the site of the College Democrats is involved in elections at all levels and "educates and trains its members so that they may be better able to educate students about the philosophy of the Democratic Party."

President of the College Republicans and sophomore Mario Valenti said of the challenge of political apathy, "The best method that I have found in tackling this problem is to actually sit down with a student and try and relate politics to their life. When a student can see directly how politics can affect their life, they will begin to have a genuine interest in it."

Pregnancy in teens bad for mother and child?

Serena Cecere
Staff Reporter

With the growing number of young adults getting pregnant, the media is starting to publicize it more than ever. Movies like "Juno" and "Precious" and shows like "Teen Mom" are growing in popularity. One can only wonder if the media is encouraging it or trying to bring awareness to the situation.

According to assistant professor of psychology Dr. Dawn Melzer, a number of teens who have babies are less likely to get married, more likely to get divorced, and more likely to become pregnant again. Teen moms usually do not receive adequate prenatal care and are more likely to smoke, drink or do drugs, which result in higher rates of birth complications and negative consequences for the child.

"So far, the research has indicated that while some teens accidentally become pregnant, others choose to get pregnant to fill a void in their lives or when they feel that school and a career are not likely, which are not good reasons to bring a child into this world," said Melzer.

"Children born to teen moms are more likely to be abused, and have been found to score lower on intelligence test, do worse in school and exhibit more disruptive social behaviors. These babies are usually born into poverty to mothers who are too young or immature to know proper parenting skills or are not able to provide a stable environment for the baby and there are long-term consequences."

According to pregnancy-info.net, in the United States, the 18-19 year-old age group has the highest rate of pregnancy, followed by the 15-17 year-old age group. However, 15-17 year-old pregnancy rates dropped by as much as 23 percent between 1992 and 2000, while the rate for 18-19 year-olds only dropped by 11 percent.

Sophomore Charles Schneider recalls the difference in his relationship before and after his friend had her baby.

"Everyone always used to hang out and go to the movies, but now if we want to see her, we have to go to her house and deal with the baby crying all the time," he said. "But I have to give her credit. As a single mother, she is working hard and doing everything she can to make sure the baby has a good life, despite the circumstances."

When senior Marie Leila Douaihi's friend had her baby, she took a semester off to be with her child.

"She is so ecstatic to be with her child," said Douaihi. "Although it was unexpected, she still thinks of it as a miracle and will do anything for her baby."

Even though some young adults cannot handle the responsibility of having a child, there are some who cherish it. Melzer acknowledges the hard-working single teen mothers of the world.

"If the mother continues in school, does not get pregnant again, is able to get a job that pays well, and has a support system, there will be a more positive outcome for the child," she said. "A support system is of vital importance. If there are more mature, stable individuals in the mother's family (like her own parents) that help her and teach her how to be a responsible parent, it works much better for everyone involved. Unfortunately, more often than not, this is not the case and the teen mother and child are left to struggle in the long run."



Where in SHU?



Is it in the Pitt Center?



Is it in Hawley Lounge?

Is it in the chapel?

Is it in the library?

The Spectrum/Sam Dowd

Find the answer in our next issue!

Last issue's answer: Merton Great Room



AP Photo

"The Hurt Locker" wins this year's Oscar for Best Picture.

SACRED HEART JOINS OSCAR BUZZ, DISHES ON CELEB WINNERS

Sam Dowd
Staff Reporter

Freshman Mia James didn't spend each of this year's award shows, from red carpet to the last credit, glued to the television like some of her classmates.

But, she did make sure to catch up on the highlights.

"It was nice to see news stories that didn't have to do with health care, or natural disasters, or even Tiger Woods, but instead Sandra Bullock winning an Oscar, or how successful Mo'Nique was," said James. "It was certainly a welcomed change."

Awards season 2010 has passed largely unnoticed because of so many other news stories.

With the flood of awards shows that have come up over the last decade, the Academy Awards, the Grammy's, and the Emmy's have lost their appeal.

The People's Choice Awards, MTV

Video Music Awards, or even the Teen Choice Awards have saturated the awards night scene.

"There are so many award events, it's hard to determine which one means the most. A Grammy used to be the most prestigious award in music, but lately it seems as though artists will get more publicity if than win a VMA on MTV than a Grammy," said junior Regina Scafariello.

A college campus has dozens of different perspectives on favorite actors or actresses.

Depending on the student you ask, qualifications for a favorite film or actor vary.

For a media studies major, technical points matter more than a plot or acting.

For the musically inclined, a soundtrack may have a larger importance while for a student involved in theater, there may be much less of a focus on how the film looks or sounds, but more on the performance of the actors.

"I usually don't focus all of my attention on the technical aspect of movie. I'm more oriented towards the acting and how the music shapes the story," said Scafariello, an avid singer, and member of the university liturgical choir, 4-Heart harmony,

and L.O.V.E.

"The Hurt Locker" won several awards this season, which surprised many since it was not as widely known as some other films being considered.

According to the New York Times, the film was never simultaneously being shown in more than a few hundred theaters across the country.

Junior Michelle Bostley said, "I think the least deserved award was the Best Picture Oscar for 'The Hurt Locker.' I saw it and it wasn't that great."

Bostley was also very impressed by the support for Sandra Bullock's work in "The Blind Side."

"I think Sandra Bullock got a lot of good publicity about 'The Blind Side' for her role, so I think that was well-deserved," she said. "I think her win as Best Actress was the most deserved of all."

-Regina Scafariello.

that "Avatar" had.

"I know it's not really about the acting, but that was one of the greatest movies I have ever seen. Especially of the ones I have seen this year. I definitely think it should have won Best Picture," she said.

This opinion is shared by many, particularly in the comments section of the reviews posted on news Web sites. Many have offered explanations for this. The film has brought in over \$1 billion and the winner of Best Picture, "The Hurt Locker" has not come close to that figure.

Speculation has it that the computer-generated characters will become so popular, and the technology will be less and less expensive such that studios will begin producing actor-less films.

Its speculations like this that make viewers think politics in the industry are involved.

"A big reason I don't watch too much of the awards shows is that I think everything is planned. The awards are given to whoever will produce the most money for the industry," said Bostley.

"In this case a struggling movie got Best Picture, and it has done well since. [It makes me think] there is some other motive than just picking it for its merits."

HE SAID/SHE SAID

Is all really fair in love and war?

Alex Atkinson
He said



All is fair in love and war? You should see my face. It keeps changing every time I repeat this question in my head. First, I have that real scrunched up face with tight eyes, and a high squeaking voice reciting it over and over again. Then there is that elongated face where I'm reading it in excitement trying to get interested about the topic at hand.

So, at some point all of us have read a book, seen a play, or rented a movie that illustrates the battle between the sexes all ultimately ending with that fairy tale ending. I mean not every story is lovey-dovey make your stomach turn plot, but it seems to be the trend.

Why isn't life like the books or the movies? People do superhuman things, animals talk all the time, and love works out for everyone in under two hours. Last week I was waking down the street, and I looked down and there he was, small and round, pleading for me not to step on him. So I walked around, giving him a ray of hope that he was heard.

Now what does this bug and fairness in love have in common? Nothing really. This analogy is really just to help realize the fact that life is not a fairytale. We all have weaknesses. We watch corny movies where the girl or the guy does some stupid prank that horribly backfires, but because they are the two main characters you know that they will end with their lips interlocked in the end.

I wouldn't say that I am a skeptic towards love but there are good reasons to be. If I were to ever find and believe in love then would anything fly? Honestly I don't know if most people can handle what I will say next about fairness and love.

If a person cheats on someone that they say they love, is there any reason to ever trust or take that person back? In my eyes, yeah. Personally speaking, I think that we are all animals who react to our natural instincts. We put ourselves into situations to spice up and cause drama in our own lives. Stress, panic: these things only come because you place them upon yourself.

If you want to believe that all is fair in love in war then you need to realize how much you love that person. How far would you go? Would you risk everything for nothing? Besides the fact that we all like a little drama, what can you do that is so harmful to the other? Toy with their emotions? Physically harm them?

Life is never fair and to this day, love is not fair either. Every one has had a crush and done something to make them realize it. My favorite as a kid was to antagonize the girl you liked, but it never really worked out so well. Then a whole bunch of jealousy would follow, filling my stomach with aching butterflies and I would run home crying.

I guess I'm not really the best person to talk to when it comes to talking about fairness and love. I'm not typically the one falling in love or putting myself out there to be convinced that true love exists, but think back to being that kid running home, crying due to a broken heart and you tell me if love is fair.

Adrian Fitzsimon
She said



Yes, as long as you play fair. But what's the fun in that? Go for it, be wild. Make a mess; cause a scene; throw a fit. Who cares? It's the beauty of being in love; he's stuck in it. If he truly loves you today, what can you possibly do to make him not love you tomorrow? If he's picking up what you're putting down, then it's fair game.

Just know what you're both getting yourselves into. If you want your relationship to be a constant battle of the sexes, then by all means, have at it. War it out. But if this is a one-sided deal, then cool off, woman. Give your poor man a break. Chill out with the drama, get rid of the 'tude, and stop flirting with other people.

"Hey sweetie, I love you today but I want to make your life a living hell, so I'm gonna go ahead and piss you off, because welp, all's fair in love and war."

Hmm, for some reason I have a hunch that that may not go over so well. That love switch can shut off just as quickly as it turned on. (But quite frankly, if you find your love switch blasting off before you even know this is the type of relationship you're getting yourself into, then I think you need to put a hold on that.)

Like Luke Wilson said, "True love is hard to find. Sometimes you think you have true love and then you catch the early flight home from San Diego and a couple of nude people jump out of your bathroom blindfolded like a magic show ready to..."

Well, we've all seen "Old School," and if you've found yourself in a similar situation to Luke, then I seriously doubt hearing, "all's fair in love and war," will turn that frown upside down.

So here's my advice: don't push the limits. If you really love someone, what makes you think it's a good idea to go out of your way to make his life a living hell?

Being loved is a privilege; so don't abuse it or it will disappear. One day you're going to regret buying into the ol' saying "all's fair in love and war." Yeah, you're gonna wake up one morning, wrinkly, old and alone and suddenly it won't be so fair anymore.

And if you fear becoming a victim of abusive love one day, then start looking for warning signs now. If your significant other is constantly flirting with the rules of love (or flirting with other people) and is always pushing your buttons, then it's time you lay down the laws of the land and set your man straight.

Moral of the story, if you think you're in love, you shouldn't be creating reasons to use this idiotic idiom to justify your actions. It's easy for you to say, but it may not be so easy for your significant other to accept.

This may come as a shock to you, but I don't know much about love or war. But I do know this: where there is war, there probably 'aint love. So if you're planning on starting a war, be prepared to lose your love.

So regardless, if you think you will need to justify your actions towards your somewhat-significant other, be willing to admit at some point that you probably weren't in love to begin with. But what do I know, I'm just the "She Said" girl.

CHILD STAR GONE BAD DIES AT AGE 38

Alyssa Collier
Staff Reporter

When it comes to having a glamorous profession, becoming an actor seems to fit the description perfectly. However, what many people may not realize is that underneath the glitz and glam, Hollywood holds a darker side waiting to rear its ugly head.

While an adult actors may have to wait years to catch their "big break," a number of them had their first shot at stardom when they were children. One such actor was Corey Haim.

Haim passed away on March 10 at the age of 38. According to TMZ, the cause of death was possibly an accidental drug overdose. Police were called to St. Joseph's hospital in Burbank, Calif. to investigate.

Haim had reportedly been checked into and out of rehab a total of fifteen times, but cleaned up in 2004 after moving to Toronto, said the Web site.

According to his official Web site, Haim starred in a number of films in the 1980s such as "The Lost Boys" and "Lucas." He was also executive producer of the television show "The Two Coreys," which he starred in with childhood friend Corey Feldman.

Some students at Sacred Heart University said they were fans of Haim, his career, and work on television and in movies.

"The Lost Boys" was my favorite of his," said freshmen Shayna Kessler, "but I also liked his show 'The Two Coreys.' I had a huge crush on both of them."

The initial reaction to Haim's passing seemed to be mixed.

"I was shocked," said Kessler. "It was very unexpected for me."

Others felt that it was a tragedy bound to happen.

"I kind of expected it," said senior



AP Photo

Haim sits for a publicity stunt on the set of "Crank: High Voltage" back in 2009.

Briana Berberich. "I knew he had been a drug addict since the 80s."

Haim's involvement in drugs led to trouble with the law. According to the CNN Web site, an arrest was made in the investigation of an illegal prescription drug ring connected to the actor.

Haim also had a number of other health problems at the time of his death. These included pneumonia, an enlarged heart, and water in his lungs, said the Web site.

Hollywood has been mourning the loss of Haim. According to WCPO, an ABC affiliate in Cincinnati, as the news of Haim's death spread, celebrities such as Alyssa Milano (an ex-girlfriend of his), Christina Applegate, Khloe Kardashian, and Marlee Matlin took to the social networking Web site Twitter to express their grief over the loss of the tragic actor.

On her Twitter page, Milano said, "Just woke up to the sad, sad news that Corey Haim passed away. RIP sweet boy."

'The Luckiest' man to play in Bridgeport

Popular piano man Ben Folds comes to FTC

Mike Oberlander
Staff Reporter

Last Thursday, junior Kristin McDonald was clicking through her computer, bored. While checking the routine Facebook and Twitter, she stumbled upon the Fairfield Theatre Company Web site and to her delight found that Ben Folds, piano man of popular Ben Folds Five group would be playing locally within the next few weeks.

"Sometimes it is hard to find things to do in the area," said McDonald. "I like his music and he has some really good songs, so I figured I would go."

Folds will be playing on Wednesday, April 7 at 8 p.m. at The Klien Memorial Auditorium in Bridgeport, according to the Fairfield Theatre Company's Web site.

Folds came onto the scene in 2001 with the release of the album "Rockin' the Suburbs," which sold more than half a million copies worldwide, according to the artist's Web site.

As said on his site, Folds' appeal comes from his "melodic gifts, irony-laced lyrics, and punk-rock tendency to play piano as if it were a contact sport."

Anticipation has been brewing among Sacred Heart students since the news spread of the singer's local performance.

"I have always been a big fan of Elton John and Ben Folds has a little bit of Elton in his music," said junior Manny Acevedo. "So naturally I have come to enjoy his music and would definitely try and make it to the concert."

Acevedo was also surprised by the crooner's choice of location. "Its very in-

teresting how he is going to end up playing in Bridgeport in such a small venue, I never figured he would end up in this area, that said I am still excited for the performance."

Even with some students knowing about the concert, it seems that playing in such a low-key music hall has its disadvantages.

"I like Ben Folds and I had no clue that he would be playing so close to Sacred Heart," said freshman Mike Amatulli. "It's too bad because a place like the FTC would get much more business if advertised more... I would have liked to know that Folds was playing sooner."

But even with the little publicity he has gotten, it does not seem that Folds will have any problems filling the venue with fans.

"As long as I don't have any other plans for that day, count me in to see him in concert," said freshman Renan Zoffoli.

Folds will be bringing his Elton John and Jerry Lee Lewis keyboard-pounding style of play, with some pop beats, angry lyrics, and yet humorous acts to the FTC.

"I just enjoy his music he has all types of songs and it will be interesting to see him perform solo since he is mostly associated with his previous band," said McDonald.

If you're into music familiar to Elton John, Paul McCartney, and Randy Newman the "Ben Folds and a Piano" show is the place to be on April 7.

For more information about the show or upcoming acts at the FTC check out FairfieldTheatre.org.



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GET REEL: MOVIE REVIEW

Christopher O'Connell
Contributing Writer

"She's Out Of My League" may sound like a self-help seminar for unattractive, awkward males (that's what the look from the girl at the ticket counter told me, very judgmental I might add), but the film is anything but that. It really is just the story of a guy who got really, really lucky.

Kirk, played by Jay Baruchel, is a low level, socially awkward TSA security agent, rated a "five out of ten" by his peers, who somehow lands a date with blonde bombshell Molly (Alice Eve).

Molly is undoubtedly a ten, and if this were the real world, she wouldn't give Kirk the time of day.

But since Molly seems to like him, he has to try his hardest to not screw it up, which if you've seen any romantic comedy since the invention of film, you know that he is going to screw it up, and that it is going to be very funny.

Baruchel may be the only problem I have with this movie. I enjoyed him when he made his debut in "Tropic Thunder" as a supporting actor, but he simply isn't a good leading man (Hollywood must disagree, because he has three movies coming out this year alone).

He isn't believable as the lucky guy who gets the hot girl, mostly because he has the body of a ten-year-old

child, and because he acts with his arms.

If Baruchel needs to show some sort of emotion he does it by flailing his skinny little arms in the air, the way normal people do when they want to really exaggerate a "what in the world are you talking about?" moment. It's like he was trying to make himself look bigger in case any large predators were around. I half expected a hawk to swoop down and carry him off while he squeaked in protest.

Thankfully, he is surrounded by a whole host of supporting characters who spend their time rescuing the movie from Baruchel. His three friends take the brunt of the work and although they are all no-name actors, they do a pretty good job. Fans of "That 70's Show" will be pleased to see Kitty pulling out her trademark grin and high-pitched laughter.

Many of the characters are overplayed, much like "Stepbrothers" was, but it actually feels perfect in this film and makes it significantly funnier. Top all that off with a surprisingly charming leading lady, and you've got a comedy that lifts itself above just mere mediocrity.

That, and a scene depicting the "sprucing up" of a man's "combat" zone for relations of an intimate nature, makes it worth a watch.

Predictability and Jay Baruchel aside, "She's Out Of My League" isn't a bad film and is at least worth a matinee.

Get Reel gives "She's Out of My League"



AP Photo

New series 'The Pacific' makes WWII come alive for students

Kristi Troccoli
Staff Reporter

First it was the 1988 film "Saving Private Ryan." Next was the 2001 HBO miniseries "Band of Brothers." And now, Tom Hanks and Steven Spielberg are going to war for the third time together.

After the "Band of Brothers" miniseries ended in November of 2001, viewers were left wanting more.

According to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, the producers got mail from soldiers who recognized their own experiences in "Band of Brothers." However, veterans of Pacific battles wrote that they wished their setting had been included in the series.

"We got so many letters of veterans from the Pacific theater of operations asking us if we could acquit their stories the way we acquitted the stories of the European theater of operations," said Spielberg to the Pittsburgh Post Gazette.

After hearing veteran's responses to "Band of Brothers," Hanks and Spielberg were inspired to create a production in which provided the account of the Pacific theater of operations.

Their epic ten part miniseries, "The Pacific," made its debut on HBO on Sunday, March 14.

Many individuals were curious to see the distinction the series would have in respect to "Band of Brothers."

"From what I know about World War II, the war in the Pacific was far more gruesome than it was in Europe. The soldiers in the Pacific had to endure diseases like malaria, treacherous weather conditions, and extreme casualty rates," said junior Erika Scheetz.

According to the Post Gazette, the horrific nature of the war in the Pacific was expected to be very difficult for the actors and writers to represent on the screen, however the producers felt they had to try.

Some have said if the war is portrayed accurately, the series would be beneficial to show in the classroom.

"Now, if the Pacific is well done and can help me to bring home some points about World War II (such as the idea that it was more of a brutal, violent experience than a romantic one; or that many of the racial problems at home played

themselves out within the military), I'm all for it," said Dr. James Lundberg, assistant professor of history.

To capture the authentic detail of the landscape of the war, the series was filmed in Australia.

"The actors spent more than ten months shooting in the jungles of Northern Australia at a price tag of \$195 million," said The Wall Street Journal. The producers wanted to capture the "isolation and physical demands of jungle warfare."

Following the lives of three real-life U.S. marines, Robert Leckie, John Basilone and Eugene Sledge, the miniseries is partly based on the memoir books "Helmet For My Pillow," by Leckie, and "With the Old Breed," by Sledge.

"Sometimes a story can help you to conceptualize or understand an experience in ways that reading in a dry textbook simply cannot, and this can be a good thing, provided that the work is done sensitively and carefully," said Lundberg.

To some, the realism displayed in the series is what makes it so compelling.

"I sat down with my boyfriend to watch the first episode of 'The Pacific' thinking, 'Great, this next hour is going to drag by.' Conversely, I was captivated by the World War II scenery and events because the show presented tremendous attention to the kind of authentic detail that builds the 'you are there' reality," said junior Nicole Rowlands.

Check out "The Pacific" Sundays at 9 p.m. on HBO.



AP Photo

Joe Mazzello plays Corporal Eugene "Sledgehammer" Sledge in HBO's new miniseries, "The Pacific."

What's yours is mine, what's mine is... free?

Gallery of Contemporary Art to host speaker on copyright laws

Jaclyn Hendricks
Staff Reporter

One-thousand. That's the number of songs freshman Nicole Elby has in her iTunes library. However, did she purchase all these songs through iTunes?

"I bought some through iTunes and majority of them were uploaded through burned CDs from friends," said Elby.

Sacred Heart students are quite familiar with iTunes in regard to purchasing and downloading music, but to what extent is borrowing music from friends or copying music infringing on copyright laws?

Tonight at 7 p.m. in Sacred Heart's Gallery of Contemporary Art, the event entitled "Copyright, Visual Art and Digital Age" will not only celebrate the gallery's 20th anniversary, but will also discuss the issues surrounding what is considered legal and illegal in terms of taking or tweaking pieces of art.

"Everyone has their own viewpoint on what's legal," said gallery director Sophia Gevas.

The question remains, though: where are you legally stepping over the line?

The event will host guest speaker and lawyer Alan Neigher. A graduate of Boston College Law School, Neigher has appeared on CNN with Lou Dobbs as well as National Public Radio (NPR). His short list of clients included Cablevision News 12, the Connecticut Post, and Brooks Newspapers.

"I want to explain about copy right laws," said Neigher to the Spectrum. "In the Internet age, digital technology is the 800-pound gorilla in the room and has to be given an enormous amount of attention."

The Internet has enabled users to download music at their leisure or view pieces of art without going to a museum. However, this source also leaves the door open for anyone to tweak or steal original material at any given moment.

"The Internet and technology are evolving so quickly and it affects everybody," said Gevas.

Essentially, anybody anywhere can download a song for free through an illegal system without a second thought.

"I borrowed music from my friends and have burned CDs in the past," said sophomore Courtney Shropshire.

"I might have thought that I was violating copyright laws on occasion, but it's not the first thing that pops into my head."

In the past, the Web Site LimeWire was regarded as a resource for free music downloads. However, as the Associated Press (AP) reported in 2006, "a coalition of record companies sued the operators of the file-sharing program LimeWire for copyright infringement as the company encouraged users to trade music without permission."

With these situations, students might begin question whether or not they are stealing or committing a copyright crime.

"Tweaking words is citable, but tweaking and altering an image, the line is blurred almost," said Gevas.

The event tonight promises to look upon various media-oriented topics, however all are encouraged to come out for a mind-stimulating experience regarding an important issue.

"If you're interested in the topic you will come away with something new," said Neigher. "I like to stimulate the audience and with a topic that is critical to your future."

"The Copyright, Visual Art & Digital Age," event will be held tonight in the Gallery of Contemporary Art starting at 7 p.m.

'SHE WORKS HARD FOR THE MONEY' Are gender stereotypes in the workplace a cliché of the past?

Michael Ohrenberger
Staff Reporter

After exiting the plane, you wave goodbye to your flight attendant Bob.

You then go home to your house, which is being remodeled by contractor Susan.

For some this is just an average day. For others, sounds like madness.

Gender differences in the workplace and other activities have been portrayed in the media, and often in real life, as being something out of the ordinary.

"First ones that come to mind are male hair stylists, female janitors and female plumbers," said junior Kirill Kasyanov.

Other Sacred Heart University students mentioned male cheerleaders, female football players, male interior designers, and female construction workers on their list of gender stereotyped jobs.

"My wife works in an elementary school, there are only a few male teachers," said Ray Mencia, director of club sports. "I feel stereotypes like that are wrong. Gender does not mean you are any less capable of doing the job."

Media studies professor Debbie Danowski explained how she feels the gender difference in jobs is often portrayed in the media.

"I think that in the media, when we get images of men in particularly women's jobs or women in particularly men's jobs, it usually includes a struggle and a success," said Danowski.

"There is always a triumph over a tough part, but it generally does not seem to be shown as completely acceptable," she said.

With the media giving us this image of abnormality, some students continue to disagree and wash gender differences out of the picture.



AP Photo

Natalie Randolph is the new head football coach at Calvin Coolidge Senior High School in Washington.

"I think gender differences are definitely becoming a thing of the past," said junior Kimberly Nugent. "Today most of these jobs and activities are more accepted and we are definitely moving in the right direction."

"I, for one, am a big believer in men taking on typically feminine-viewed jobs," said senior Zachary Frank. "I don't see the point in discriminating upon people that are just trying to make a buck."

While it is accepted by some, students seem to have mixed views as to whether the idea of being looked upon as in a job for the wrong gender would hold one back from following their dreams.

"I think that most people will just not

even think to consider these particular occupations because it's going against the social norm," said junior Jade Ean-Heller.

"The types of jobs and extracurricular where you have a male flight attendant or a female construction worker are stereotypically tied to particular sexual orientations which may be a draw, or a setback, depending on the individual," she said.

Some feel that even if a job is considered stereotypically held by the opposite gender, it won't hold someone back from doing what makes them happy.

"I do not think that this holds certain students back at all from doing what they want," said junior Steve Armato.

"I think if someone really wants to

do something they are going to do it either way. The whole gender difference thing is in the past now, this is the 21st century," he said.

Despite the possible adversity, students seem to be able to agree on one thing: If you have a dream, follow it.

"I mean, put it this way: If you're a guy and you want to become a hairdresser, a manicurist/pedicurist, or even desire to sell handbags and brassiere's, then go for it," said Frank.

"You were put on this planet for a reason, even if that's to make sure some lady's got the perfect perm, matching nails and toes, and new Coach bag with a pretty pink push-up bra," he said.

S.T.A.T. bonds old and new SHU students

Chris Corrigan
Staff Reporter

"We want students to know that their relationship with SHU does not end when they graduate. It changes," said Kristi Cioffi, an alumna of Sacred Heart University and the head of the S.T.A.T. Program, which stands for Student Today, Alumni Tomorrow.

The group encourages students to maintain a relationship with the school after graduation. The group is fairly new and still in its beginning stages.

"We're still looking for people to sign up and support the cause. It seems as though a good amount of people are interested in joining so we hope to get the word out about S.T.A.T. as soon as possible," said president of the organization, senior Kerri Kalinski.

S.T.A.T. is governed by elected alumni members and current students who are interested in helping.

Current members are the ones who are in charge of keeping the alumni connected to the Sacred Heart community through events and outreach.

S.T.A.T. has gained the support of senior Cori Horelik.

"I think it's great what they're doing. They are trying to keep friends together through the school. It's an awesome program it should have been thought of sooner," said Horelik.

What responsibilities will the group take on?

"Initially, the group will be responsible for hosting young alumni events and welcoming each new graduation class to the alumni association," said Cioffi. "As the group builds and expands, we hope to have the group expand to

include regional groups, community service projects, and more."

Junior Tracy Severe thinks it's a great way to stay connected.

"It's just like an office with records and files designed to keep us all connected in the future. That's a really awesome thing," said Severe.

The only issue thus far would be gaining student recognition.

"Most students aren't aware of us because we haven't started handing out information about ourselves yet," said

Kalinski. "Next week or after Easter break is when we are going to really start advertising the program."

As for their hopes for the program, the organization has set the bar high.

"My hope is that S.T.A.T. will become a natural transition for SHU students into the alumni association," said Cioffi.

"We want young alums to stay connected with the university. We care about them and want to be there to help them in each new step of their life. S.T.A.T. is an outlet for them to still come to events, take advantage of alumni benefits,

and stay up to date on SHU news."

Information regarding the group is being sent out to upperclassmen so that they can get involved once they graduate.

"I'm definitely going to take advantage of this new outlet," said senior Shawna Kittredge. "It'll be so convenient after graduation. If I have any questions regarding alumni or events I can just call them."

For those of you who are eager to continue your Pioneer experience after graduation, stay connected with friends and the university with S.T.A.T.

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April showers bring new styles to runway

Ashley Monaco
Staff Reporter

Ashley Ciampa was elated when she spoke about a simple topic – big shoulders.

"Big shoulders are back!" said Ciampa, a junior at Sacred Heart University and vice president of the fashion club.

But Ciampa wasn't talking about the style found on a football field; what she was referring to was spring fashion.

"I personally think this is so much fun because it isn't something we have seen since the 80s," she said. "Also, it is a very figure-friendly trend that gives you a great hourglass shape so all different body types can wear it."

While big shoulders may not be for everyone, the fashion club has listed the ins and outs of this spring's fashion trends.

"One of the biggest trends coming out is plaid," said junior Brittany Brown, co-president of the fashion club and intern at Juicy Couture. "Usually when we think of plaid we think of winter, but this trend will be continued throughout the warm weather."

"Scarves are still going to be around, as the weather turns warm and there is going to be a lot of linen and light cotton materials to accessorize with any outfit," she said.

Others said there are easy ways to turn simple outfits into dressy ones.

"I have seen a lot of fun tanks with metallic colors, sequins, and beading starting to appear," said junior and co-president Nicole Morelli. "I think fun tanks can really dress up a pair of denim shorts or a denim skirt."

If you're looking for something a little funkier, the girls said there is plenty of that this season too.

"Juicy Couture's new summer line has a lot of feathers," said Brown. "Feathers are great when they are used properly. We even have the classic 'little black dress' with black feathers on the shoulders which gives it a little pizzazz and a unique look," said Brown.

"If you don't want to go for anything too wild, you should stick to neutral colors, such as black, navy or beige. These colors will give your outfit a more sophisticated look without looking too wacky," she said.

However, there is a time and a place for everything, including bold colors.

"This season there is going to be cropped tops, feminine ruffles and a lot of neons," said Ciampa. "An easy way to wear neon without looking too bold is by wearing a bathing suit. You can't argue with something that makes you look tanner. It is going to be a really fun and flirty season with bright colors and bold silhouettes."

While the fashion experts at Sacred Heart agreed that many spring trends are great, some said there are a few blasts from the past that should have never made a comeback.

"In a few spring catalogs I received I noticed that clogs



AP Photo

This season feathers, cropped tops, and neons are in.

are making a comeback and oxford shoes are also becoming popular," said Morelli.

"However, I am not really a fan of clogs, they can be an annoying shoe to wear and don't do much to pull a look together," she said. "I will definitely not be running out to purchase a pair any time soon."

No matter what your style is, it comes with a price tag, and for college students, this can often be a downside to dressing to impress.

"Forever 21 is a great store to go to when looking for a steal," said Brown. "For example, I came across a great cotton scarf that is definitely in style and is only \$4.50."

"You can't go wrong with that," she said.

Some said that they call it "bargain hunting" for a reason.

"If you have time to really search, you can find some awesome deals at stores such as Marshall's and TJ Maxx," said Morelli. "The Marshall's on Post Road in Fairfield has an awesome shoe selection."

While certain pieces may not fit your style, there are plenty of options that could last for years to come.

"If you're afraid of the big shoulder trend, find a little black dress with just a little shoulder pad in it that gives just enough definition," said Ciampa. "This will look very chic and become a staple in your wardrobe for the seasons ahead."

'Rudeberry': the rules of cell phone etiquette

Brittany Foy
Staff Reporter

If there is one object sophomore Katherine Breen cannot be without, it's her Blackberry.

"I'm always on my phone texting friends and family," said Breen. "I actually feel lost without it."

In an age where technology is so prevalent to everyday life, people have mixed feelings about the etiquette of this means of communication.

In many ways, students and professors agree that text messaging can be rude and inconsiderate if not done properly. Social situations involving one party texting and the other person being ignored can often lead to unspoken tension and feelings of disrespect.

Sacred Heart University students realize this and try to avoid the bad habit.

"I hate when people are trying to have a conversation with me, but keep checking their phone or are texting while talking," said sophomore Heather Wolfe. "I'll admit that I do it too sometimes, but if I know it's a friend who hates that, I wouldn't do it out of respect for them."

Not only do students realize this faux pas, but professors have seen it in the hallways as well.

"A negative with cell phone use that I see too often is when two people are walking together and one is texting while the other is left out of the loop," said James Malerba, tutor for special services and adjunct professor for the English and religious studies departments.

While many students said that they do not think texting is a big deal, they admitted that blatant, impolite cell phone usage, whether in class or at gatherings, is a major pet peeve, especially while class is in session.

"I don't text that often in class, but when I do I put my phone in my purse or under the desk so that it won't light up and be a distraction," said sophomore Cori Palermo. "I know that not a lot of professors appreciate it and I wouldn't want to bother anyone else. It's annoying when someone has their phone on loud or is constantly obviously texting in class, so I try not to," she said.

But the generational gap about texting etiquette is not only confined to the classroom. Students said that texting at the dinner table or when they are home becomes an issue during breaks.

"I know that my family doesn't like texting at the table. My mom thinks I'm being rude if I'm ignoring her and answering someone else. Since I'm constantly at school, we hardly see each other," said Palermo. "Instead, I tend to keep my phone away and just appreciate our time together."

While many students can relate to the texting peeves of their peers and family, those entering the business world should also be weary of whether or not their texting is sending the wrong message.

Anna Post, of the Emily Post Institute, offers acceptable behavioral tips for those addicted to sending messages and checking e-mails. She advises turning it off when in meetings, being cautious of where you are and what you're doing on a Blackberry, as you never can be sure of your surroundings, and finally using correct spelling and punctuation.

Of these tricks, professor Malerba considers the latter to be of the most importance.

"Perhaps the most grating problem to me is the lack of standard English when texting," said Malerba. "The English language has standards for perfectly good reasons, and those standards must be in the forefront at all times."

Although Malerba admitted he does not text, he said that he does not accept e-mails with "gutter" language as it portrays two things.

"The sender does not care about standards, and does not have respect for the intelligence of the receiver," he said.

While texting and e-mailing has legitimized as a form of communication over the past few years.

"There is still no substitute for good, old-fashioned interpersonal conversation – the kind where you actually talk face-to-face," said Malerba.

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Scoreboard

Friday, March 19

Softball

SHU- 2

Houston Baptist- 1

W. Lacrosse

CCSU- 3

SHU- 18

Baseball

UConn- 15

SHU- 3

M. Volleyball

Rivier- 0

SHU- 3

M. Hockey

Air Force- 1

SHU- 2

Saturday, March 20

Baseball

SHU- 11

UConn- 8

M. Lacrosse

SHU- 6

Hofstra- 14

Softball

SHU- 4

Buffalo- 3

W. Tennis

Albany- 4

SHU- 3

M. Hockey

SHU- 1

RIT- 6

Sunday, March 21

Baseball

SHU- 2

UConn- 9

M. Lacrosse

SHU- 6

Hofstra- 14

Softball

SHU- 3

Oakland- 2

W. Lacrosse

Bryant- 8

SHU- 17

On Deck

Tomorrow

Baseball @ Hartford

Noon, 2 p.m.

Tennis vs. Hartford

2 p.m.

W. Lacrosse @ Wagner

3:30 p.m.

M. Volleyball @

New Paltz

7 p.m.



The Spectrum/Michele Tymann

Sacred Heart's David Berube (#22) controls the puck during a recent game against Holy Cross at the Milford Ice Pavilion. Berube and the Pioneers lost to RIT in the AHA championship game on March 19.

Pioneers fall to RIT in AHA title game

Mike Leboff
Staff Reporter

For just the second time in school history, the Sacred Heart University men's ice hockey team came within one win of advancing to the NCAA tournament.

After a thrilling 2-1 victory over Air Force to reach the Atlantic Hockey Association title game, the Pioneers came up short against the top-seeded RIT Tigers, 6-1.

In front of a packed house on March 19 at the Blue Cross Arena, in Rochester, N.Y., freshman goalie Steven Legatto carried the second seeded Pioneers into the final game with 32 saves.

Pioneers- 1
Tigers- 6

After a scoreless first period against Air Force that featured several big saves by the freshman from Kelowna, British Columbia, Erik Boisvert got the Pioneers on the board midway through the middle stanza. Freshman Eric Delong made a strong play to find Boisvert, who put the puck past Air Force goalie, Andrew Volkening.

The tempo of the game picked up heading into the final period as the Falcons threw everything they could at Legatto, who was up for the challenge.

With 1:39 left in the game, Air Force coach Frank Serratore called a timeout and pulled his goalie for an extra attacker.

The bold move paid off as Jacques Lamoureux tied the game after he put a loose puck behind the Pioneer goaltender.

But after the ensuing faceoff, senior Dave Jarman made a perfect pass as he found Patrick Knowlton who rifled one past Volkening to

book the Pioneers a spot in the final.

"Jarman looked for me," said Knowlton in an interview with Atlantic Hockey correspondent Chris Lerch. "He made a pass and it hit off a skate and came right back to him."

Going into the semifinal game against Air Force, Sacred Heart already knew that a win would mean a date with the top-seeded team in the conference, RIT on their home ice.

Feeding off the energy of the record-setting crowd, the Tigers came out flying against the Pioneers in the championship game on Saturday night and never looked back.

After Sacred Heart's David Berube received a major penalty and was ejected for boarding, RIT sophomore forward Cameron Burt put the Tigers in front only 2:16 into the game as he crashed the net and beat Legatto.

The goal vaulted Burt to a big game, who then assisted on four of the next five RIT goals.

After RIT took a penalty, the Pioneers looked to get the game even going into the second period.

Instead, RIT's Mark Cornacchia scored his third short-handed goal of the year to give the Tigers a 2-0 lead.

"I thought that was the turning point of the game," said RIT Coach Wayne Wilson in an interview with Leach. "If they score on the power play, it's one-all going into the second. But we go up 2-0 and put the pressure on them."

RIT took complete control of the game early in the second period on a goal by Sean Murphy.

Midway through the second period, Jeff Smith put the Tigers up 4-0 after he beat Legatto.

Tyler Brenner put the game away late in the second after he took a pass from Burt to beat the freshman goaltender.

The Pioneers played hard in the third and ended up on the board with a goal from Eric Delong.

Murphy responded for the Tigers as he

put the Tigers up 6-1, which is how the game ended.

Despite the loss, Sacred Heart head coach C.J. Marrottolo was proud of how his team fought to close out their season.

"I'm proud of my team for playing hard down 5-0 in the third," said Marrottolo. "We didn't give up and respected the game. Our hat's off to RIT. They will be a dangerous team in the NCAA tournament. The better team won tonight."

AHA Tournament Recap

Championship
#1 RIT def. #2 SHU

Semifinals
#2 SHU def. #3 Air Force
#1 RIT def. #5 Canisius

Quarterfinals
#1 RIT def. #9 UConn
#2 SHU def. #7 Holy Cross
#3 Air Force def. #6 Army
#5 Canisius def.
#4 Mercyhurst

All Tournament Team:
(SHU) Knowlton

SHU athletes up for grabs to highest bidder tonight

Tom Herles
Staff Reporter

Athletes at Sacred Heart University are accustomed to the daily stresses that come with participating in sports.

Most, however, rarely experience what it's like standing on a stage, up for grabs to the highest bidder.

"I wasn't nervous," said sophomore Justin Britton of the cross-country team. Britton participated in the first annual student-athlete auction last spring. "I sold for \$26, so that's good."

Tonight, the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) presents the second annual installment of the event.

Those attending will get the rare opportunity to bid on a date with male and female athletes from all of Sacred Heart's Division I teams.

"Last year we had over 30 students auctioned off and this year will be about the same," said Lucy Cox, advisor to SAAC. "There will be a runway, Big Red will be the usher, and different student-athletes will emcee. It's a great event."

According to senior Annie Archer, co-president of SAAC, this year's event is expected to be even more popular than last year's.

"Last year was the first time we had the auction and it was extremely successful," said Archer. "So many people showed up that we're having it in the Pitt Center this year so we have enough space."

The auction acts as a fundraiser to raise money for the Lisa Moray scholarship fund.

Moray was a Sacred Heart graduate



and member of the women's basketball team who was killed in a car accident in 2008, only weeks after graduation.

According to Cox, the scholarship is presented to an incoming first year student – not necessarily an athlete – who will be entering the university next fall.

"Last year was the first time we had the auction and it was extremely successful. So many people showed up that we're having it in the Pitt Center this year so we have enough space."

-Annie Archer
Co-President of SAAC

"[Last year] athletes were auctioned off for between \$25 and \$250," said

Archer. "The price depends on how much participants are willing to spend."

"Some people spent a lot of money when I went last year – I couldn't believe it," said senior Scott Grandpre of the men's volleyball team. "It's for a good cause though."

The winning bidders for the auction will participate in a group date with all the participating athletes.

Britton said the experience was unique.

"I didn't care how much I sold for," he said. "We went out to dinner and played bingo on the date."

And since this year's "date night" will be a movie shown on campus in the Schine Auditorium, the bidders only need to break the bank at the auction and not the date itself.

"The date was interesting," said Britton. "It was a big group and everyone was kind of on the date together, so it was really different. I did know my date that bid on me but others didn't – it was kind of a split."

According to Cox, the names of the athletes participating are being kept secret until the auction gets underway and those who would like to find out must attend the event.

However, at least one athlete from every team will be presented on the auction block tonight, which means that the diverse range of Sacred Heart competitors will be up for grabs.

According to Grandpre, there is no telling how much an athlete will go for beforehand, but rather it is up to the fans.

"There were some really good back and forth bids last year," said Grandpre.

Second Annual Student-Athlete Auction

**When: Tonight,
8 p.m.**

Where: Pitt Center

Admission: \$5

**All proceeds raised
will benefit the
Lisa Moray
Scholarship Fund**

"It wasn't really what I expected. Some athletes were going for way less than I would have thought beforehand and others were just through the roof. I have no idea what it'll be like this time."

All are welcome to attend the event regardless of their interest in bidding. The cost of admission is \$5, which will also go towards the Lisa Moray scholarship fund.

Women's Lacrosse nets 35 goals in two-game span

Antonino Mannino
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University women's lacrosse team breezed through the weekend as they defeated Central Connecticut State University, 18-3, on Friday and knocked off Bryant University, 17-8, on Sunday afternoon at Campus Field.

The Pioneers' win on Friday was a milestone for head coach Laura Cook as she captured her 100th career victory at Sacred Heart.

"The team did a great job of executing the game plan for each game," said Cook. "The defenders really were up to the challenge and never let Central Connecticut or Bryant get into any offensive flow."

The Pioneers began their Northeast Conference schedule in impressive fashion as they beat Central Connecticut behind



The Spectrum/ Michele Tyman

Sacred Heart's Alicia Fuchs (#22) drives toward the net during the Pioneers' victory over Bryant on March 21 at Campus Field.

senior Carissa Hauser's five goals and two assists.

Senior goalkeeper Chelsea Wagner made ten saves in the win to become Sacred Heart's all-time leader in career wins for a goalie with 33.

According to the Sacred Heart athletic Web site, Wagner passed former Pioneer Ginny Capicchioni who had 32 wins from 1998 through 2001.

The Pioneer defense was a key factor in both wins as it forced 30 Blue Devil turnovers and 14 failed clear attempts (9-23).

Central Connecticut had no answer as they were kept off the scoreboard for a 21-minute stretch in the first half and were scoreless for the whole second half.

Seniors Cori Horelik and Farra Coppola also contributed to the victory with goals.

"The senior class brings veteran leadership to our team this year," said Cook. "They have the experience and knowledge of what it takes to win."

Central Connecticut kept the game close at the beginning of the first half by responding to nearly every Pioneer goal.

However, the second half was a different story as the Pioneers outshot the Blue Devils, 16-6, and scored 11 consecutive goals while keeping Central Connecticut off the scoreboard.

Sophomore Aurelie Pluijmakers had a three-goal run of her own in the second half to pick up her first points on the season.

One of the goals that stood out came from Hauser at the 10:28 mark in the first half as she sprinted halfway down the field to beat the Blue Devils defenders and score an unassisted goal.

The Pioneers continued their winning ways on Sunday against Bryant, despite a strong contingent of Bryant supporters who made the trip to Campus Field from



The Spectrum/Michele Tyman

Sacred Heart's Nicole Gerosa (#18) controls the ball during the Pioneers' 17-8 victory over Bryant University on March 21 at Campus Field.

Rhode Island.

Sophomores Alicia Fuchs and Kate Kmietek each scored four goals while the defensive unit forced 26 Bulldog turnovers and nine broken clears.

Sacred Heart easily out-shot Bryant 41-18 in the game and used a strong start to hold on for the victory.

Horelik got the Pioneers on the board first just 1:10 into the game as she received a pass from Fuchs for her first of three assists. Minutes later, Horelik set up Hauser for her first of three goals on the day.

At the 20:37 mark, Fuchs was at it again as she assisted senior Jackie Pierce with a goal to build a 13-7 lead.

Fuchs' four goals and seven points marked a new career high for the sophomore attacker, according to the Sacred

Heart Athletic web site.

Hauser finished with three scores and a pair of assists, including six draw wins and a pair of grounders. Coppola totaled two goals and an assist with four ground balls.

The Pioneers will try to continue their winning ways as they put their undefeated conference record on the line against Wagner College tomorrow at 3:30 p.m.

"The team is focused on taking one game at a time," said Cook. "There are aspects of our game that need improving which we will work on as a team this upcoming week at practice. We are only looking as far as our Wagner game."

Material from this article was contributed by the Sacred Heart Athletic Web site

MLB Preview: Expectations running high for N.Y. teams

Rob Morgan
Sports Editor

After a long and brutal winter for much of the Northeast, spring has finally arrived and a brand new baseball season is just around the corner.

For the New York Yankees, 2009 was a year of jubilation and triumph as they began the season by opening the doors to their brand new \$1.3 billion stadium and capped it off by winning their 27th world championship in franchise history.

Behind the dominant pitching of CC Sabathia and clutch postseason hitting of Alex Rodriguez and Hideki Matsui, the Yankees flexed their muscles to reach the top of the baseball world after defeating the Philadelphia Phillies in the Fall Classic.

For the organization as a whole, the Series victory over the Phillies was especially satisfying as it was dedicated to principal owner George Steinbrenner, whose declining health in recent years has been well-documented, yet "The Boss" remains as fierce and competitive as ever.

It was also a sweet ride for veterans like Derek Jeter, Jorge Posada, Andy Pettitte, and Mariano Rivera who waited nine years to return to the baseball summit.

But all that is ancient history, as the Yankees will begin their title defense on April 4 when they open the season against the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park.

"Our expectation is to climb the mountain again and be the last team standing," general manager Brian Cashman told the Spectrum. "We know how difficult it is and we know how good the competition is out there. We've got our work cut out for us, but if we stay healthy, we think we have a chance to compete at that level."

It certainly won't be easy for the Bronx Bombers as the AL East has improved significantly since the end of last season with the Red Sox, Tampa Bay Rays, and Baltimore Orioles each poised to make a run at the division title.

"Boston is still the top competitor,"

said WFAN Yankees beat reporter Sweeny Murti. "They are always going to be the team to watch. Baltimore has some very good players and if their pitchers develop quickly they can make some noise, although they probably can't sustain a full season in this division yet."

With the offseason acquisitions of Curtis Granderson, Javier Vazquez, and Nick Johnson, many feel that the 2010 Yankees are even more talented than last year's squad.

"I think the Yankees have the chance to be a better team than last year," said YES Network baseball correspondent Jack Curry. "If they stay healthy, I think this team has a chance to match last year's team by winning another title."

However, when the Yankees traded Melky Cabrera to the Atlanta Braves in the Vazquez deal and let Johnny Damon and Matsui sign with other teams as free agents, they lost three important pieces of last year's championship team.

"Johnny Damon was a total pro in the clubhouse," said Curry. "He answered a lot of questions and absorbed a lot of media attention. But I think the Yankees believed that they had squeezed everything they could out of Damon and Matsui and didn't think it was worth it to bring either one back."

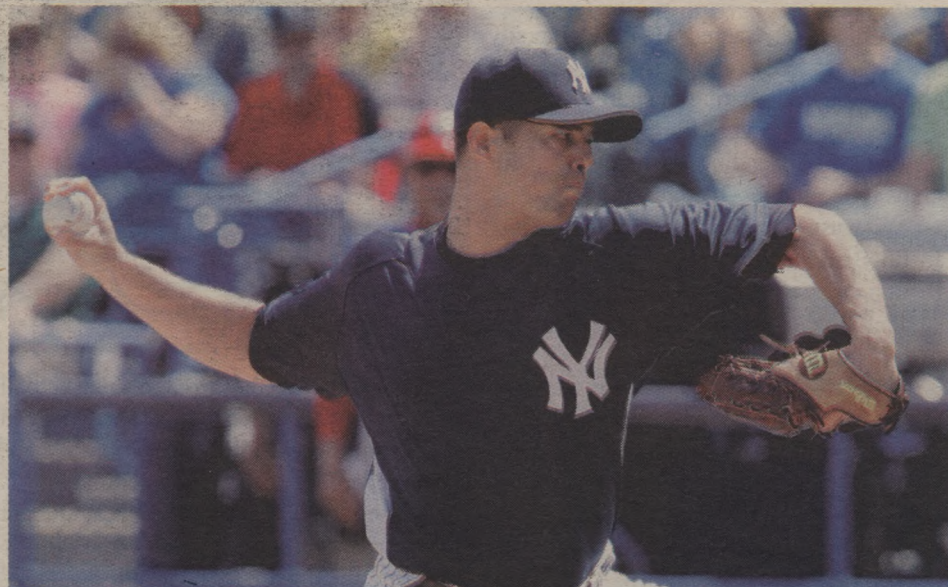
The acquisition of Vazquez in particular gives the Yankees another bona fide starter in the rotation that can go deep in ballgames and potentially hand the ball off to Rivera for the 9th inning.

"Vazquez is a durable guy and you can figure on him throwing his 200 innings a year," said Curry. "In addition to that, he was also one of the best pitchers in the NL last year."

According to Curry, including Cabrera in the deal to acquire Vazquez was a "no-brainer" even though he was a fan-favorite and popular teammate.

But the question begs asking: Will the departures of Damon, Matsui, and Cabrera affect the overall chemistry of this year's team?

Murti doesn't think so.



AP Photo

The Yankees acquired Javier Vazquez in a trade that sent Melky Cabrera to the Atlanta Braves.

"I don't think chemistry is a problem," said Murti who has covered the Yankees for WFAN since 2001. "Clearly, the Yankees lost talented players in Damon and Matsui, but they added quality players in Granderson and Johnson."

"As for the chemistry, the Yankees still have Jeter, Posada, Rivera, Pettitte, Sabathia, Teixeira – all guys responsible for setting that positive atmosphere. If the Yankees don't win this year it will be because they weren't good enough, not because of chemistry that walked out the door."

The only real question mark for the Yankees heading into spring training was who would begin the regular season as the fifth starter.

While Joba Chamberlain and Phil Hughes were considered the early favorites, Alfredo Aceves and Sergio Mitre made their own cases to be considered for the spot, however, both tailed off towards the end of spring training.

Chamberlain struggled mightily in his first two starts of the spring, giving up a combined 11 earned runs in just 3 2/3 innings before rebounding in his third out-

ing of the spring.

With the start of the season drawing closer each day, the competition is already in full swing.

"Based on the spring performances, I don't think there is a frontrunner yet," said Curry. "Based on how the Yankees brass entered the spring, I think they see Hughes as the favorite. I think Hughes will be a solid starter, but, after all the rules the Yankees had surrounding Joba, the best course of action for them could be to let him begin the season as the 5th starter."

After an impressive rookie season, Francisco Cervelli is expected to catch between 40-50 games, which will give Posada some days off, especially down the stretch.

According to Curry, even though ex-Yankee Jose Molina served as A.J. Burnett's personal catcher last season, don't expect Joe Girardi to use Cervelli in that same role this year.

"[Girardi] wants Cervelli to know all the pitchers, which is a safeguard in case Posada ever gets injured," said Curry.

See METS on Page 15...

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM EARNS WEEKEND SPLIT

Eddie Kuspiel
Staff Reporter

The Sacred Heart University men's volleyball team wowed spectators with an impressive 3-0 (30-24, 30-25, 31-29) sweep over Rivier College on Friday night at the William H. Pitt Center.

Senior Kalani Efstathiou, freshman Nick Hunt, and freshman Adrian Fernandez used an array of kills and digs to give the Pioneers a 23-21 lead in the first set.

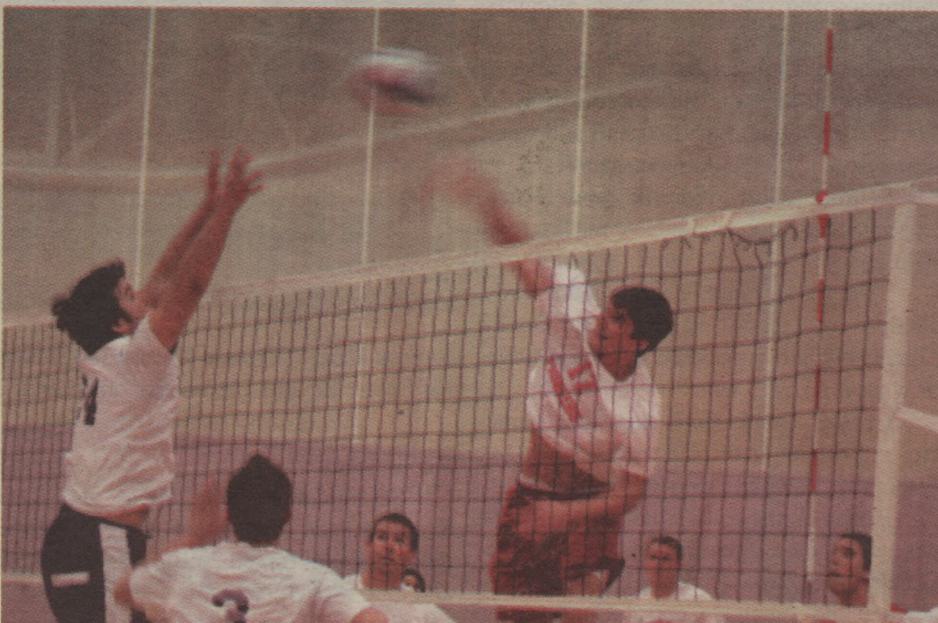
Efstathiou then brought the game to a close with a seven-point streak of his own – only part of his 16 kills during the set. Hunt also contributed 10 kills to the victory.

Fernandez kept Rivier from seeing any action on the scoreboard, holding down the Pioneers defense with eight digs in the first set.

"The team looked very good," said head coach Rob Machan. "After a long lay-off for spring break, I thought they played with energy as well as intelligence."

The Pioneers lost to Rivier earlier this season, but according to Machan, the team has made significant strides since their previous meeting.

"We have worked very hard to continue to improve as a team and I think that



The Spectrum/Mike Oberlander

Sacred Heart's Mike Komlanc (#17) goes up for a kill during the Pioneers 3-0 victory over Rivier College on March 19 at the Pitt Center.

was evident in the results of [Friday's] match," said Machan. "Rivier is a very strong program but we just never let them get comfortable."

When asked what the team's recipe for success was, Machan said that the Pioneers practice like they play.

"Not only the starters, but everyone on the team [has improved]," said Machan. "Our practices are very intense, and that

level of intensity is what drives the team to improve."

The Pioneers also overcame some injuries sustained during the week, but did not let it affect their play against Rivier.

Sophomore Mike Komlanc hyper-extended his right knee during Tuesday morning's practice, however, he received clearance to play in both Friday and Saturday's matches.

Hunt also suffered a sprained right ankle during Monday's practice, however, he too played over the weekend.

"Their injuries had no impact on the match or the weekend," said Machan. "Both were good to go on Friday."

The Pitt Center was filled a little more than usual for Friday's game, as many fans for Rivier came to support the visiting team. However, there were just as many Pioneer fans supporting the home team.

"The volume of the crowd definitely influenced the play of the game and it heightened the intensity of the competition, keeping our intensity as players on the court at an all-time high," said junior Joe Sauer.

Junior Tim Sadowski was selected to be the team's third captain, joining seniors Scott Grandpre and Efstathiou.

"Tim has been an excellent floor leader for us the entire season," said Machan. "Part of that is the position that he plays, part of it is his natural leadership abilities. Adding him as co-captain along with Kalani and Scott just further solidifies the team's leadership."

The Pioneers four-game winning streak came to an end the next day when they fell to Harvard University, 3-0.

The team will return to the court tomorrow when they travel to New Paltz, N.Y. to take on SUNY New Paltz at 7 p.m.

METS, YANKEES 'HOPE FOR HEALTH' IN '10

...Continued from Page 14

On the other side of town, 2009 was a season to forget for the New York Mets who finished in fourth place in the NL East with a record of 70-92.

After being decimated by injuries for most of the season, manager Jerry Manuel was forced to put together a lineup that resembled more of a Triple-A squad than a major league club.

And to make matters worse, Mets fans had to endure a Fall Classic in which their two bitter rivals – the Phillies and Yankees – faced off against one another for all the marbles.

While the team is determined to turn the page on the nightmare that was last season, 2010 is already turning out to be a case of déjà vu.

"We hope that we can get healthy," general manager Omar Minaya told the Spectrum. "If we get healthy and get all of our players back on the field, we should be fine. We should be a contending team in the National League."

So far, however, that hasn't been the case as Carlos Beltran and Jose Reyes are both expected to begin the season on the disabled list.

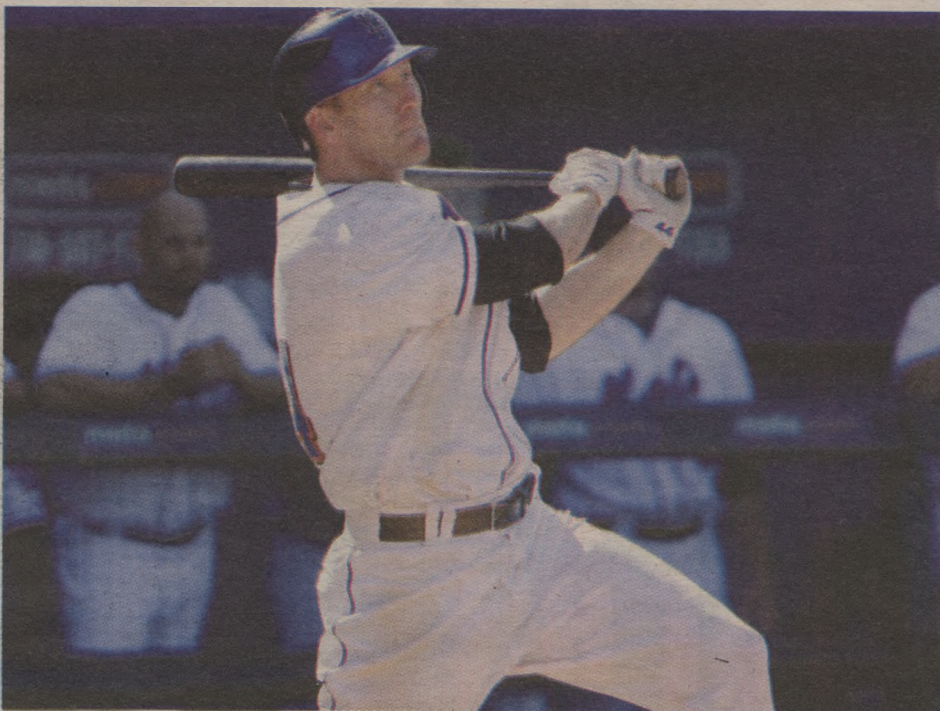
Beltran's decision to have offseason knee surgery – four months after the end of the season – initially did not sit well with management.

Even David Wright was surprised by the move, telling the SNY in January, "there's a lot of questions to be answered."

But cooler heads prevailed, and the all-star centerfielder expects to return to the lineup by late May or early June.

After appearing in just 36 games last season, Reyes missed most of spring training with an overactive thyroid before being cleared to resume baseball activities on March 23.

"Reyes and Beltran have already been to the doctors office too much," said 1050



AP Photo

The Mets signed free agent outfielder Jason Bay to a 4-year, \$66 million contract during the offseason.

ESPN Radio managing editor Andrew Marchand.

Closer Francisco Rodriguez missed two weeks of spring training with pink-eye and led many to believe that he too wouldn't be ready for Opening Day, but the boisterous closer returned to the mound in early March and remains on track for Opening Day.

Minaya received a great deal of criticism from fans and the media during the offseason for not bringing in enough free agents – especially pitchers – which could put him on the hot seat if the team gets off to another poor start.

"The Mets should have gone all out for John Lackey," said Marchand. "He was the guy they need because of how he pitches and how he goes about his business."

The Mets did make a big free agent

splash this winter by signing free agent outfielder Jason Bay to a four-year, \$66 million contract.

"If we get healthy and get all of our players back on the field, we should be fine. We should be a contending team in the National League."

-Omar Minaya
Mets general manager

Bay, who spent the last year and a half with the Red Sox, will be a much-needed upgrade in the outfield while providing another source of veteran leadership in

addition to Wright.

"We're very happy with the acquisition of Jason Bay," said Minaya. "We think that it's one that will help us. Bringing a player like Jason Bay who has been a run producer over the last couple of years will definitely help our offense."

While Bay will fit nicely in the middle of the lineup, Marchand doesn't think he'll be enough to make the Mets a legitimate playoff contender.

"It was a weak free agent class," said Marchand. "But as one scout told me, 'Jason Bay doesn't turn the Mets from a fourth place team to a first place team.'"

After Johan Santana, the pitching staff is questionable at best – especially at the back end of the rotation with Oliver Perez and John Maine both coming off disappointing seasons in 2009 where they went a combined 10-10.

"I don't know how you can expect much more than mediocrity from their starting staff," said Marchand.

Minaya signed Kelvin Escobar this winter with the expectation that he would compete for a spot in the rotation, however, Escobar will begin the season on the disabled list with a shoulder injury.

The injury-prone Escobar has pitched just five innings since 2007, and anything that the Mets get out of him this year figures to be a bonus.

"[Escobar] may go down as the worst signing Omar has made," said Marchand.

With expectations running high this season for both the Yankees and Mets, members of both organizations are hoping for wins and a little luck along the way.

"You hope for health," said Yankees pro scouting director Billy Eppler. "You want your opponents healthy also to see how the players you procured in the off-season match and compete with what your rivals in the division and in the league have done. You want to see the best of every team and see how that plays out."

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



The Spectrum/Michele Tyman

Sacred Heart's Kate Kmiotek (#3) controls the ball during the Pioneers' 17-8 victory over Bryant University on March 21 at Campus Field. Kmiotek and teammate Alicia Fuchs each scored four goals in the game to lead the Pioneers to victory.

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THE SPECTRUM

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Pioneers fall short
of first AHA title,
lose to RIT 6-1

TAMED

Patrick Knowlton scored the game-winning goal against Air Force to propel the Pioneers into the AHA Championship Game against RIT.

The Spectrum/Michele Tyman