

"SHEDDING LIGHT ON CAMPUS NEWS SINCE 1983"

VOLUME 32, ISSUE 6

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The Spectrum website and social media accounts have been experiencing some problems, which are currently being addressed and should be resolved within the week. Spectrum will keep readers updated regarding when the website and social media accounts will be fully functioning again. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Students Give Meaning to the Alternative Spring Break



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LAUREN BONISTALLI AND THE SPECTRUMMEGAN LACKMAN

LEFT, STUDENT LAUREN BONISTALLI STANDS WITH GUATEMALAN CHILDREN ON HER SERVICE TRIP.
RIGHT, CAITLIN DOYLE '15, WORKS ON A HABITAT SITE IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

BY ALYSSA ANDERSON Staff Reporter

The Office of Volunteer Programs sent over 130 Sacred Heart students not only to various places in the United States to work for Habitat for Humanity, but also to South and Central America on mission trips this past week for spring break.

The new international mission trip of the spring semester was the trip to Mexico. Sacred Heart is working with Simply Smiles, a non-profit organization that gives bright futures for impoverished children, families, and their community. The organization focuses on understanding the community's situation and what they are going through emotionally.

There were also three other international trips that students could have attended during their spring break that were organized and put together by Margaret Casey, who works in the Volunteer Programs and Service Learning Office at Sacred Heart University.

"I coordinate the trips. This includes the initial contact to students with emails announcing the international trips are accepting applications," said Casey.

Casey has organized the four mission trips to Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala. Once applications are sent in, they are then reviewed by the advisors of each individual trip and they then select the students they would like to interview for the spots.

The more recent mission trips to Costa Rica and Guatemala were started in 2013.

"I went on a International Immersion trip through the Volunteer Programs and Service Learning office to Guatemala, and had a phenomenal experience," said junior Stephanie Nickerson, a student leader on the trip.

Sacred Heart works together with the Costa Rican Institute of Technology to reach the goal of introducing students to a cultural exchange along with doing community service. On this trip, students lived with a Costa Rican family and worked alongside a student from the Costa Rican school. They worked on things such as reforestation, teaching English, and doing activities in the local schools, as well as hiking through the rain forest and learning about the culture.

"The University our school was partnered up with was Tecnologico de Costa Rica (TEC)," said freshman Taylor Crosby. "I enjoyed staying with the families and meeting the TEC students because I learned about the culture and the language of Spanish."

In Guatemala, students worked closely and lived at a school and clinic center where they learned about health and educa-

tion as well as history and social justice. They did this by helping to construct a room in the school or clinic to improve the needs of the children and families.

"We were able to meet with a community in need and give back to them in various ways, including funding the restoration of their school and painting/re-doing the murals," said Nickerson. "The cultural exchange that we had with every person we met was an invaluable experience and something I will treasure always."

The El Salvador mission trip began in 1992 and has continued each year at Sacred Heart during spring break, said Casey. A select number of students were chosen to travel to an area called Tierra Blanca. Once there, students attended a delegation where they listened to stories about El Salvadorians who have survived the 1980 civil war. Students also worked with El Salvadorians on projects such as construction, youth activities, and donating high school equipment.

For Habitat for Humanity, Sacred Heart students went to work sites in Florida, Texas, Washington, South Carolina and West Virginia. Students worked directly for the Habitat for Humanity organizations in each of those states and did everything from new construction of houses to renovation of homes in need.

"My favorite part was meeting the homeowner, bonding with them and working with them on the workdays," said freshman Anjelica Sitek who went to West Palm Beach, FL.

In order to attend a Habitat spring break trip students must go through a competitive application process.

"Students must attend a work day, two fundraisers, attend all the meetings, and have an outstanding application," said senior Jeff Daley, Habitat for Humanity president and A&E Editor for "The Spectrum."

Over 90 Sacred Heart student's participated in the Habitat for Humanity's alternative spring breaks living in retreat centers, volunteer centers, churches or even some habitat homes.

"I'm so proud of how motivated our students are to make a difference," said Conor Cassidy, senior treasurer of Habitat for Humanity who went to South Carolina. "I will never forget the time I spent building with Sea Island Habitat."

The students who attend these trips give up their spring breaks to make a difference in many other families' lives.

"We all took great pride in being able to help build her [the homeowner's] family a home," said senior John Dibari, who went to Texas. "Seeing the joy on her face and thinking about the loving memories that will be made in the home we helped build made the experience so incredible."

News Editor Alana Miller contributed to this article.

Career Fair Gives Students Opportunity to Succeed

BY AILEEN CASMANO Staff Reporter

The Office of Career Development & Placement Center hosted its annual career fair on Feb. 26 from 1-4 pm in the Pitt Center. It was an opportunity for students to meet employers in person, network, and gain insight about internship or job opportunities.

"We kicked off the annual career fair with a 'darty' in the career office. It was an event for students to get tips, ask questions, and have their resume looked at," said Tammy Petrucelli, Director of Career Placement. The word "darty" is short for day party. This was held on Jan. 29 and there was also food, a raffle, and games.

"This is the first year we did a darty. The purpose was to get everyone pumped up and motivated to attend the career fair," said Petrucelli.

The career center also hosted several resume workshops leading up to the career fair.

"We invite all the employers on our PioneerLink database which is just over 6,000. Not all come but this year about 90 employers signed up, which was just about as much space we had to accommodate," said Patricia Klauser, Executive Director of Career Development & Placement.

"There is a good range of companies, but it's hard to make everyone happy because the companies sign up on their own so there's not always a match for every major," said Klauser.

All full-time undergraduate and graduate students were invited to the career fair. Students were not required to sign up in advance. The staff from the career office was keeping track of who attended by swiping their student ID cards. Once a student's card was swiped, a nametag printed out with their name, major, and graduation year. Everyone was also given a directory of each company that matched a map of where their table was located in the room. Once students checked in, a career staff member looked over their resume. The career coaches urged students to bring printed copies of their resumes to hand out to the employ-

"The career fair is an opportunity every student should take advantage of. Face to face contact is so much more efficient than sending a resume," said senior Bethany Barbar. "A qualified student might not get called back by an HR director because their resume is in a pool of 500, so it was an awesome chance to make a lasting impression."

Each company brought two to three employees with them. They were given a table in which they laid out fact sheets, business cards, and pictures. There was also a LinkedIn photo booth set up if anyone was interested in getting a professional picture taken for his or her profile.

"This event is a great way to match students and employers. I always receive nothing but positive feedback each year. We have even had a few former students attend with their company, which goes to show how successful the event can be," said Petrucelli.



OVER 90 EMPLOYERS WERE PRESENT AT THE CAREER FAIR THIS YEAR.

Sacred Heart Ranked Platinum for Promoting a Healthy Workplace

BY PHIL FALCONE Staff Reporter

Sacred Heart University was recognized by the Business Council of Fairfield County for its outstanding commitment to promoting a healthy work environment for its employees. This was the fourth year that Sacred Heart was acknowledged by the council.

The council honored 27 area employers at its sixth annual Healthy Workplace Employer Recognition Program on Feb. 28 at the Stamford Sheraton Hotel.

"It's a nice breakfast and awards ceremony and there are over 200 individuals who attend the event. In previous years, Sacred Heart has received an award at the gold level. This year we received the platinum," said Sally Schettino, Human Resources Project leader and the leader of Sacred Heart's Wellness Program.

In addition to Schettino, Robert Hardy, VP of Human Resources, Julia Nofri, Executive Director of Human Resources and Lisa Gockley, Director of Human Resources attended the recognition ceremony.

"We filled out an application and provided the

council with the details of what we do here," said Schettino.

According to Schettino, The Human Resources Division of Sacred Heart developed the award winning Wellness Program in the fall of 2007 and has been providing employees with the opportunity to become more aware of their health and to lead healthier life styles for the past five years.

"We introduced the Wellness Program with a university health fair. We had vendors come such as weight watchers, we handed out pedometers and just had people come so that we could tell them what we were planning," she said.

The Wellness Program offers a number of exercise and educational programs.

"We try to see what the newest exercise programs that are out in the community," said Schettino. "Things that people can find outside we bring here on campus so it's convenient such as Pilates, spin fusion and yoga. We also partner with the exercise science and nutrition departments. There are some professors in the departments who will come and do the Lunch & Learns with us to help educate people about nutrition."

The Wellness Program also provides weight loss

webinars and stress management programs. The wellness fairs are open to all university faculty and staff, students and family members. Those who attend have been offered free flu shots, biometric health screenings and healthy cooking demonstrations.

Sacred Heart University has a total of 1,150 employees, which includes full-time and part-time staff, faculty and adjunct professors. Schettino said that about 10 percent of Sacred Heart's employees take advantage of the exercise and education classes.

"We have a spinning room which is located in The Christian Witness center, we use the Pitt Center aerobics room, and hold wellness lectures in classrooms all over the university," said Schettino.

The Wellness Program also creates deals with other healthy facilities in the area such as LA Fitness and Physical Synergy.

Schettino shared that when the Wellness Program first began they brought a mobile mammogram on campus. "We had a woman who had a mammogram and found out that she had breast cancer. She always felt like that event and us having that saved her life," said Schettino.

Perspectives

Blackbear Saloon Closing

BY NICOLE CANNIZZARO

Staff Reporter

After a "Say goodbye to the bear" party on Feb. 7, the Black Bear Saloon, better known as SoNo, has been closed after eight years of successful business.

This local hotspot had drink specials all-night and auctioned off their famous wooden bear statues to say farewell to their loyal customers.

"I do think I enjoyed Black Bear before it closed. Although I turned 21 in December and only enjoyed it for a few weekends it was pretty fun to say the least," said senior Brendan Finnigan.

Finnigan said he thought the prices were often too high at Black Bear so it might be time for a change.

"I do not think it will be a big loss, but there are plenty of other places for SHU students to go, such as more local places or trying different bars in SoNo (South Norwalk)," said Finnigan.

Despite the Black Bear Saloon closing in South Norwalk and Stamford, four other locations remain in business for those who want to continue their memories in a Black Bear Saloon atmosphere.

"SoNo being closed means good things for the future. Being a Norwalk local, I am excited to see how downtown develops over the next few year," said senior John DiTullo. "Black Bear has always been a nice place and though I'm sad to see its end, I know they will replace it with an even better bar."

McFadden's Restaurant and Saloon is the new replacement for the Stamford Black Bear. Their grand opening will be March 6-8 and will feature doors opening at an earlier time than usual and drink specials throughout opening nights to attract a good crowd. Johnny Utah's Bar & Pub is the rumored replacement for the South Norwalk Black Bear location.

"The fact that Black Bear is closing is shocking, but after being a former club extraordinaire in CT I realize this happens quite often," said junior Mason Powers.

The iconic name of SoNo and the well-known atmosphere of Black Bear could cause Sacred Heart student's to shy away from the new bar.

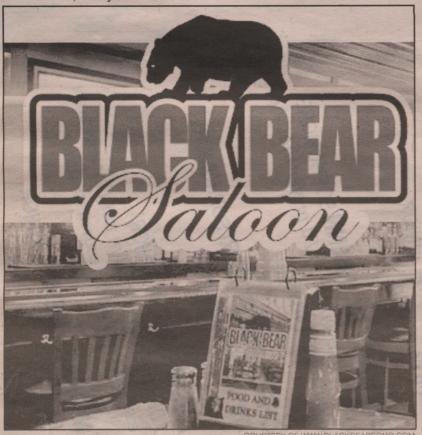
"In this case Black Bear is a familiar name to many, but the bar to fill its place should have no problem starting up because over time a bars name fades. This is a fresh start to establish a new name and atmosphere," said Powers.

McFadden's will have live DJ's on Thursday-Saturday night, and will serve lunch and dinner every day before the college crowds come in.

"I've never been to SoNo, but I'm definitely interested to see what the new bar is like. I heard there is going to be a mechanical bull which makes me excited for it too," said sophomore Stephanie Puleo.

Sacred Heart is losing one of their regular options for nightlife in the area, but junior Samantha Wolman doesn't think it will be a problem for students.

"I honestly don't mind SoNo closing; there are other bars and clubs to go to. Maybe this will mean house parties will come back too," said Wolman. "I didn't attend a lot when it was open but I think the new bar will be successful, I'll try it out for sure."



COURTESY OF WWW.BLACKBEARSONO.

BLACKBEAR SALOON CLOSES AFTER EIGHT YEARS OF BUSINESS.

Modern dating

MARKsays...



So relationships, yeah? I am going to try (key word: try) and write this with enough "natural" nonchalance to hide the fact that I haven't been in a serious relationship since the glory days (obviously sarcastic) of high school.

I actually had quite a few different scenarios in my head when I used to think of what dating was going to be like when I finally got to college. With ideas of four-story frat house mixers, forgotten 8 a.m. classes, and popping bottles left and right, college was shaping up to appear to be one long bachelor party stint that was going to arguably yield the best four years of my life. I never accounted for what a relation-ship would be like during all this prenuptial hell raising.

I had ideas of course, I mean my fellow student body and peers are known for our newfound "hook-up culture," and I was pretty sure I had nothing to worry about. I had been to parties before had made the mistake of using good pong skills as a flirting mechanism, and thought I knew what I was getting myself into. Alas, I was wrong.

The strangest part about growing up, is that you are in fact, growing up. That is what I never accounted for when I was in high school. I had believed that I was going in to college with the idea that I was going to remain who I was, but I didn't and not many people can (or even should) accomplish that.

I tend to look at relationships from one side, and forget that a relationship means having someone else's ideas and dreams come in to account as well. Dating in college has made me realize that there is more to life and I am still not prepared for what more comes after all of this.

Dating in high school is necessary because there is a chance that as an individual we may be able to get to know ourselves better, but I never imagined that dating would be like this for the rest of my life. I expected the majority of the time I shared with someone would be spent trying to get to know them better, not getting to know myself.

However, dating in college has taught me that as people, we spend the majority of our lives trying to understand ourselves and one of the best ways to do so is to get to know and understand others. I wasn't prepared for what dating in college would be like, but along with its frustrations, successes, and at times, hilarity, I have found that it has made me who I am today and will continue to make me who I will be.

AMYsays...



I could babble for hours in an "I am wise, omnipotent and annoying" type way about modern day dating. It is horrible. Dating has turned into this thing that people feel obligated to do after they awkwardly get inebriated at a bar and come in contact with another human. We are the "hook-up generation." You can't necessarily blame this happening on one factor. Generally, people have just been reproducing these humans that are painfully and socially inept. Nature or nurture-I'll let you decide. Anyways, we build these interpersonal relationships off of social media. If someone feels attraction, they turn to Facebook or texting. Texting can be so noncommittal. You can easily guard yourself from the vulnerability of an in person conversation but not answering a causal date invitation and blaming it on "poor cell-service." God, it is so cowardly.

Where are those interpersonal relationships that are developed face-to-face or by calling someone on the telephone? Situations like these foster growth and love.

I understand dating is hard, strenuous, exhausting. I'm sure the majority of the world would rather date their tub of "Chunky Monkey" ice cream or a plush bag of wine. All I ever hear about relationships in college is the struggle to accurately build an ideal façade. The goal is to appear approachable yet guarded. Uninterested yet very interested. Aloof but passionate. It's all so premeditated and contradictory. What ever happened to being you? Being your raw, witty but also self-deprecatingly human self? I know it worked for me. Being with someone that makes you feel anxious, embarrassed or nervous to be around is poisonous. Just don't do it.

There is hope in modern dating. I promise. Example: This past weekend my lovely guy and I (humor me--we all like romances) went to a Risotto place in Greenwich Village got gelato and walked around enjoying bookstores. It was simple and perfect. We laughed. I didn't stress over being "the perfect combination of witty and cute" nor did he worry about whether the conversation was headed in the right direction or the end of the night kiss. We were ourselves. We focus on getting to know each other better with each passing day as we grow together in a unique place of affection. No matter how many years we've been together, that feeling of our first date will never go away.

What I've learned from my own relationship and other individual's relationships is that a constant pursuit is key. If you've been dating someone for six years or six days, you need to continue to pursue them whole-heartedly. Make them feel wanted, but in a real way. No one wants to date someone who is emotionally uninvolved.

Lets get back to a world where dating was fun and real.

Perspectives

Students Tap Into UNICEF

BY KRISTINA BURGWIN Staff Reporter

How long could you go without touching your cellphone to check emails or text messages—is our society consumed with the constant use of cell phones?

The charity, UNICEF, organized a challenge online called the "UNICEF Tap Project" to see if people would make the "sacrifice" to give up cell phone use in order to save someone's life.

"I absolutely love this website because I could rack up the minutes for charity when doing something like my homework. It can actually help me focus on other things instead of checking my texts and emails," said freshman Lea Magliocchetti. The challenge with this project was to see how long people could go without touching their phones. Every ten minutes, a sponsor donates money towards clean water and adequate sanitation for those who do not have these resources.

The website monitors how long a person goes without touching his or her phone. The outcome of this initiative would speak volumes about people and their use of technology.

"I would definitely sacrifice not touching my cell phone so children in the world could have clean water; I think I could go about a day without touching my phone," said sophomore Shannon Owens.

Such a challenge posed by UNI-CEF can help people decide if they could cut back on cell phone use. "I think of my phone as a convenience and do not feel addicted to it at all. I could go without using it, but society tells me that I need a phone to assimilate to today's world," said junior Geoff Giller. "A cell phone is just a way to ignore the rest of the world and stay in your own."

Cell phones can be addictive due to the immediacy of response and gratification. The need to feel socially connected on phones can make individuals feel vulnerable if not connected.

"I do think cell phones are great because they literally connect all humankind instantaneously by just a tap. But, I think with young people and college students especially, the ability to communicate immediately is abused," said junior Chris Minardi Despite the downfalls of the constant communication, continuously advancing technology has greatly benefit our world, as seen in the UNICEF tap project.

The UNICEF websites urges people to put in perspective the necessity to have a clean water source for survival or the opportunity to text a friend socially.

"When I participated in the UNI-CEF tap project I thought it was a great idea. I don't think it just helps provide clean water to people in need, but it gives an incentive for people to stop touching their phones. The age of social interaction has been both helped and hurt by the cell phone," says Minardi.

If you would like to participate in this initiative, go on to tap.unicefusa.org through your mobile device.

What are your thoughts on this weather?



TWO MEN HELP DIG OUT A CAR THAT WAS STUCK ON SNOW AND ICE AT GHASSAN'S RESTAURANT ON HIGH POINT ROAD DURING A WINTER STORM FRIDAY, MARCH 7, IN GREENSBORO, N.C.

* BETHANY BAUMANN SOPHOMORE I don't like winter so I'd prefer that the * JYLLIAN OLIASTRO SOPHOMORE I want winter to be over and the snow I like the cold a lot, I'm not like everyor * CHRIS BOLETTIERI SOPHOMORE * DYLLON FRANTIN SOPHOMORE * ELYSE PATRIQUIN SOPHOMORE else who wants the warm weather. The weather is bad--it shouldn't be * HALEY TANELLA SOPHOMORE I'm ready for it to be warm and * MICHAEL KENNY JUNIOR I wish I was still in Florida. * CARLY HANSEN SENIOR * JOHN COLETTA JUNIOR * ABSHIR ADEN JUNIOR It's too confusing.

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In Short...I'm Short

MARISA PAPA
ASST. PERSPECTIVES EDITOR

This past week a man told me I was 12 years old. Not guessed or questioned, but told me. Directly. As a 20, very soon-to-be 21-year-old, that insulted me quite heavily.

I was flying home from my very sophisticated, mature, adult trip to Disney World when the TSA security guard, let's call him Frank, began to address the mass lines of people waiting to be searched. He was cracking a few jokes, making the baggage and security line feel just a fraction shorter than the Tower of Terror line. Frank is being kind, we're smiling, laughing together—we're friends, or so I thought. So Frank began addressing the public, listing off rules they should follow, "keep the line moving, stay with your stuff," and the ultimate kicker, "no children under 12 need to take their shoes off for the security scan."

Now here I am taking my shoes off because, you know, I'm 20. Now once again, and louder, Frank said, "again, no one under 12 needs to take their shoes off." Mind you, there were no children in the general area. Again, I ignored his comment. After both my shoes were successfully off and ready to be checked, Frank turns and faces me. Yelling now. To just me. "You do not need to take your shoes off," says rude Frank. I turned directly to him and said, "I am 20."

I'm not entirely sure who was more uncomfortable: him, me, or the people in back of me in line. Frank was shocked, and then walked away. Shortly after he returned and said," I just can't believe it." To which I responded, "Yes, I'm actually on spring

break from my COLLEGE." Frank was floored. You can bet I want to sneak past all sorts of security in three months and drink a legal alcoholic beverage in front of his face.

As if getting pat down and a full body scan wasn't embarrassing and degrading enough, he needed to call me a "sixth grader." As I finally got past the line, I tried to remember what I was doing in the sixth grade. Playing with LEGO's, worrying about jumping off the swing on the playground and learning math. The entire subject of math, mind you, the basis of it, not even a specific branch of math like geometry or statistics, just plain math.

I have been incredibly short, and a contestant on the game 'let me guess your age,' for my entire life. When I was younger I would wait for my growth spurt like some kids waited for the mail or Santa. I was never on the charts at the pediatrician for height or weight.

Some people think my short stature and young looking face is a blessing, and boy would they tell me that, forcefully imposing these views upon me. I would try hard to respond back to them, politely explaining that no 15-year-old should be forced to wear Dora the Explorer shorts because nothing else fits her. After the uncomfortably long pause, they would usually respond with, "well when you get older you'll appreciate the fact that everyone thinks you're young!" I'm still waiting.



Reach for the stars JEFF DALEY A&E EDITOR

I absolutely love being a Media Studies student. Sure, you could think the major is a joke because "all us media majors do are watch movies all day." Wrong! Well...actually that is 50% correct. The other half we write, film and create. I do not enjoy hearing negative remarks about my major. I understand there are majors out there that are tougher. I get that and respect it. However, no one should be told that their major is a "joke" or that it "easy," because that is the equivalent to saying that their dream is stupid. This major requires an artistic eye and mind.

Much like being a chemist, media production is not for everyone. The close-knit community of media majors is a mix of smart, imaginative, artistic, and fun, talented people. We study films and analyze them. We screen silent films to black and white, color, films from the 60's, 70's and so on. We study the direction, editing, acting, the effects, etc. We grow an appreciation for film and its aesthetics. It is a hands on major that allows us to have fun and use our brains in a creative way. I am too dedicated in my work as a media major to be told it is a joke. It is my dream and I am defending it like anyone else would defend his or her major.

So why am I telling you this? I guess because along the way I have seen so many amazing movies that have inspired me and placed me where I am today that I want to share it with you. I love movies. I can watch them over and over and never get sick of them. The art of film is what inspires me to do what I want to do in the future. I want to become a director, or an actor, or an editor. As a child I was given a video camera because my mother believed I had an imagination that needed to be shown and kept

saved. I would dress up countless times and go out to the fields behind my house and just pretend to do things that were bigger than my life in Albany, NY. My imagination was an escape. As kids we were so innocent and loved to play. My mom gave me that camera and I used it until it wore down. I remember my first film. I loved G.I. Joe Action figures. I had boxes of them. I grabbed my camera; I called my friends, asked my brothers to help me. We just made up this story and along the way adlibbed. It was about a military rescue team that needed to save a POW. I created a 10-minute film and plugged it into the television set and showed my family. They were so proud of me, my mom especially. She wanted me to follow my dream and that was something in movies.

I later forgot about getting into film and wanted to do be an athletic trainer. I was pre-accepted into the AT program here at Sacred Heart University and long story short I am now a Media Studies major. I have to say that I am happy where I am and love every homework assignment I am given. Like many other majors, you get to put yourself in your work. I love to do that with mine. Creating my own films, and editing them is just what I want to do with my life after college. I know I am shooting for the stars and aiming high but we should all do that. I would love to go to LA eventually and become a filmmaker or maybe an actor? I just want people to be entertained and to smile or laugh and just enjoy themselves. I want children to walk away from a movie with the sense of escape that I felt and I want them to go out and play and pretend.

Correction: In the Feb. 26 issue, the article about the mission trip to Haiti by Kelly Romano incorrectly stated that senior Arianna Narayan was returning to Haiti as a member of the trip for her fourth year when it was her first year attending.

In the pictures alongside the article, the women are not Sacred Heart students. They do not depict the Sacred Heart Haiti mission trips.

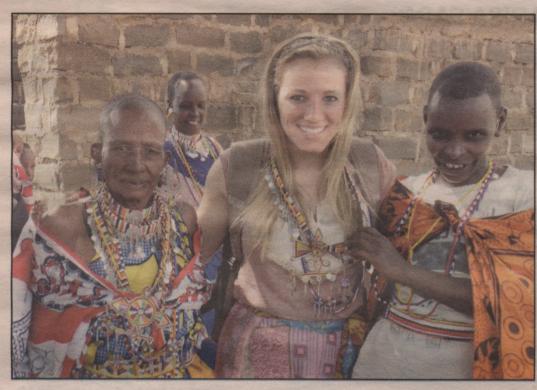
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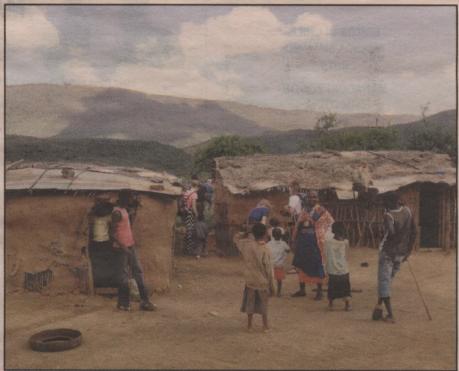
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Features

Jacqueline Zlevor Travels to Kenya





PHOTOS COURTESY OF JACQUELINE ZLEVOR

(LEFT) ZLEVOR WITH WOMEN IN MAASAI VILLAGE, (RIGHT) TWO HOMES IN THE MAASAI VILLAGE IN NAMUNCHA

BY TAYLOR LANE Features Editor

Most people cannot say they have gone on a life changing trip to Africa, but senior Jackie Zlevor has had this incredible experience before she even graduates college.

Zlevor traveled to Kenya, Africa for two weeks during the winter break of her senior year. While in Kenya, Zlevor was based in Kijabe and visited the Maasai Mara Reserve, Namuncha, Limuru, and Maai Mahu.

Zlevor had been thinking about applying for the Peace Corps when she decided to take the trip.

"[I] found the organization Love Africa online. I then applied for their short-term mission trip," said Zlevor. I wanted to give back and be challenged to view life differently."

The mission trip did just that.

"I learned to deeply appreciate my life," said Zlevor.

By going to different villages, Zlevor was able to witness the lives of others who were less fortunate.

One of the highlights of her trip was visiting Namuncha to spend the day with the Maasai tribe. After driving down a long dirt road for about an hour, they reached the village where homes were made of mud, sticks, grass, and cow dung. The Maasai tribe rely on their livestock for food and have no running water or electricity.

"Their church was the center of their village. We attended church with them and walked around their village

afterwards," said Zlevor.

The people of the Maasai tribe were extremely hospitable to their visitors.

"They cooked potatoes, chipati (a type of bread) and chai (tea) for us," said Zlevor.

The day trip to Namuncha left an impact on Zlevor. "It was incredible to see how happy they were in relation to how little they had," said Zlevor.

There were also parts of the trip that challenged Zlevor's emotional strength. Zlevor spent some time visiting Bethany Hospital in Kijabe.

The hospital had minimal resources available for their patients, some of whom were children suffering from treatable diseases.

"There was one mother there from the Congo with her baby boy. It appeared as if he had an advanced case of glossitis, as his tongue was severely swollen and protruded from his mouth. The boy could barely drink fluids because of this disease," said Zlevor.

Zlevor also saw children with spina bifida and meningitis.

"It was heartbreaking and overwhelming," said Zlevor.

The intense emotional experiences did not stop there. One of the most inspirational people Zlevor met on the trip was a Kenyan man named John who started a ministry called "Flow of Hope."

"He gives a loan to prostitutes and widows to help them learn to sew. The hope is that these women can now. use this as their occupation," said Zlevor.

Zlevor got to accompany John one day, traveling to homes in Kijabe to provide food for widows.

"He then took us to his own home where he housed thirteen orphan boys," said Zlevor.

Zlevor was introduced to John's daughter, Caroline, who was born with spina bifida. A student surgeon made a mistake during the operation leaving her paralyzed from the waist down.

"His family didn't have access to physical therapy or any of the other services that would be available to her in the United States," said Zlevor. "On top of all that John has been through and has done, his daughter was permanently paralyzed. That moment of realization for me was truly inspirational."

Inspiration was found everywhere on Zlevor's trip to Kenya. That's why she kept a journal of everything that happened. She also took pictures and videos so that she could keep those memories alive once she arrived home.

Zlevor came home with more than photos; she now has a new perspective on life.

"This trip influenced me to have a more positive outlook on life," said Zlevor.

Zlevor's life changing trip is an example of how helping others often impacts your life as well.

"The amount of poverty and suffering these individuals endure is overwhelming. Nonetheless, the happiness and appreciation they contain within their hearts is remarkable," said Zlevor.





PHOTO COURTESY OF JACQUELINE ZLEVOI

(LEFT) KRISTEN RIVERA AND ZLEVOR WITH A WIDOW FROM KIJABE AND JOHN (FAR RIGHT), (RIGHT) ZLEVOR IN THE CHURCH WITH CHILDREN FROM THE MAASAI VILLAGE

Features

Student Blogger of the Week: Katie Harrison www.storiessurroundus.tumblr.com



Okay so I know it's technically Thursday already, but I had to study for my Music midterm tomorrow and finish my Religion paper and pack for a trip I'm going on with my choir but hey, I'm here! Wednesday's all about reading but instead of sharing a book, I'm going to share an author with you guys. She writes more for girls so, sorry guys, but if you'd like to read one of her books, please, be my quest! They're great!



KATIE HARRISON'S BLOG IS ABOUT BOOKS, MOVIES, AND MUSIC

BY RAY MORRISSEY

Staff Reporter

The blogging world is an opportunity for anyone with Internet access to express their opinions on any topic imaginable. Sacred Heart University student, Katie Harrison, has taken this concept and related it to her personal interests by starting up her own blog page.

The junior communications major created a blog on Tumblr, a popular blogging forum for young people. Her blog is entitled Stories Surround Us.

Harrison's blog revolves around different forms of the creative arts, such as film, music or literature. With an attempt to connect all three on her blog page she explains to her followers that each of these creative arts are forms of storytelling.

Harrison was inspired to connect all three of these art forms by other blogs.

"I always happen to stumble upon blogs that discussed the writer's interests in the area of creative arts. Some of these writers would include personal stories as to why they enjoy or dislike a certain song they've heard, or book they've read, or movie they've seen. I suppose this is when I realized that incorporating storytelling within a discussion about the creative arts gives it a greater sense of depth," said Harrison.

Harrison is passionate about story telling

"I've always loved writing, whether it be a piece of fiction that I think up in my mind or if I base it off of a personal experience," said Harrison.

Harrison's love for writing isn't the only reason for starting up her Tumblr account. She thinks this type of social media could benefit her future.

"I'm majoring in Communications and hope to be an Entertainment Journalist after I graduate, and I figured the best way to give myself a bit of a jump start would be to discuss my favorite music and movies and books," said Harrison.

Feedback is an important element in order to gain some sort of reputation for her blog and spread the word about her page.

Harrison's followers have been beneficial to the growth of her page.

"The feedback has been positive, and I will sometimes get a message that says, "Oh, maybe you could elaborate more on this next time," said Harrison. "I'm definitely open to constructive criticism. I want to know what my followers would like to read, or what they could live without."

Harrison has dedicated certain days of the week to post about each art form so her readers know what to expect. She writes about movies on Mondays, books on Wednesdays, and music on Saturdays.

Harrison chose the title for her blog based on the story that all art forms tell.

Harrison wrote in a blog post, "I believe that not only books (obviously), but screen wrights, plays, lyrics, and even just chords all tell stories. They surround us every day, you just have to look for the right ones you'd like to hear."

To check out Harrison's blog, visit www.storiessurroundus.tumblr.com.

Kappa Sigma Hosts America 4 Boston Event

BY ZACHARY RAMIREZ

Staff Reporter

On Tuesday, Feb. 25 Kappa Sigma Fraternity held an event called "America 4 Boston" in the University Commons auditorium. The event was held in honor of the victims and families of victims affected by the Boston Marathon Bombing.

Anyone could participate in the event by adding to the poster being made throughout the day. As people walked through the auditorium doors they were greeted by giant Kappa Sigma letters, and friendly welcomes from their members.

A canvas set across a table was available to all people who wanted to write a message regarding their care for the families of the Boston Marathon Bombing. Kappa Sigma plans to present the canvas at an upcoming Boston Red Sox game.

Junior Jonathan Huynh, president of Kappa Sigma said, "We are always wanting to give back to the community and this was a great way to show we care."

The fraternity reached beyond community service at the local level by hosting this

"It's even better that this will get national recognition by being able to show our canvas at a Boston Red Sox game, said Huynh."

The America 4 Boston event had a YouTube video playing the entire time in memory of the victims and to honor the families of the Boston Marathon Bombing.

Wishes, thoughts, and prayers were written all over the canvas to show that not only in Boston, but everywhere in the United States, we stand united in disaster situations. The fraternity has a special connection to this cause.

"One of our brothers, John Callahan, was directly affected by the bombing and we want to show him our support," said junior Anthony Fortino, vice president of Kappa Sigma.

Other fraternities and sororities came out to show their support by writing on the canvas. Things like "Alpha Delta Pi loves Boston" and "Boston Strong Phi Sigma Sigma" could be seen on the canvas.

"It was great seeing all of the sororities come to show their support, when greek life

comes together it shows we can all come together," said senior Brandon Mazzini, member of Kappa Sigma.

The members of Kappa Sigma appreciated all of the support given in the event by tweeting from their chapter's twitter account (@KappaSigma_SHU) afterwards, "Thank You everyone who came out & supported the America 4 Boston Event! It was a great suc-

Freshman Ryan Cantwell, who was a participant, had a lot to say about the event. "I live in the Boston area, and when the Boston Marathon Bombing occurred I felt scared and sad for everyone affected by it."

The signed canvas at the event sybolizes how everyone can come together.



KAPPA SIGMA MEMBERS AT THE AMERICA 4 BOSTON EVENT

Arts & Entertainment

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations



MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT'S EMERALD SOCIETY PIPES AND DRUMS MAKE THEIR WAY UP NEW YORK'S FIFTH AVENUE AS THEY TAKE PART IN THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE.

Depression doesn't discriminate!



If you aren't feeling yourself, stop by for a

Mood Check-up

(and get a free cup of coffee at Outtakes!)

Wednesday, March 19 10:30 am - 1:00 pm Hallway in front of Campus Ministries

or call the SHU Wellness Center 203-371-7955

BY ADREANNA WALSH

Staff Reporter

Whether it is all week entertainment at Red's, an excursion to New York City, or staying local in Fairfield or Bridgeport, CT, there will be something to do as we approach St. Patrick's Day. This year, Saint Patrick's Day falls on Monday, March 17

"It's been a tradition that I go every year to the city with my friends. Especially for my senior year I want to go to the city," said senior Angela Alotta.

The first Saint Patrick's Day parade was held in New York City back in 1762. Traditionally, the parade starts in the morning at 11 a.m.

The entertainment on this day is known to be one of the biggest holidays, and mostly for the drinking. With people wearing green hats, jewelry and t-shirts with funny sayings that pertain to the holiday.

"It's nice that this school is so close to the city, so I'd rather go to a nice bar with my friends," said senior Nick Delisi.

This parade is known to be the country's oldest and proudest Irish tradition. Every year, the parade marches up Fifth Ave.

For Sacred Heart students, the city can be an option. It's only a train ride away and it doesn't cost any money to view the parade. The only thing students would have to deal with would be the crowds and the money for food and drinks at local bars.

Some students do not want to go through the hassel of attending the parade.

"I probably won't go to the city again. I did that last year and it was mobbed," said senior Sal Carnazza.

This holiday is based off of personal preference. Some people love the crowds of the city and others hate the crowds, commotion and expense.

"Staying locally around school is honestly a better option for me because I like to save my money," said senior Katrina Rossi.

If a student is looking to stay close to the university, there are local bars in Fairfield and Bridgeport such as The Field, Marisa's, and the Golden Star Café. The local bars provide a more convenient celebration spot for Sacred Heart students.

"I hate spending money on drinks so I'll go anywhere that has the cheapest drink specials," id senior Danielle Tomlin.

Red's, Sacred Heart's pub, located in the Linda McMahon building will be open with certain

"I love going to Red's because it's so convenient. I don't have to drive, and they always come through with cheap drinks specials," said senior Anthony Cardone.

Since bars around the area know that Sacred Heart is nearby, expect for more information about bar and drinks specials. Stay tuned for the emails and flyers about more information on Red's, and other local happenings about what to do on this holiday.



CROWDS ENJOY THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE ON FRANKLIN STREET IN MICHIGAN CITY, IND.

Arts & Entertainment

New Album on the Horizon For Miranda Lambert



MIRANDA LAMBERT AND BLAKE SHELTON PERFORM IN CONCERT TOGETHER.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The good news? Miranda Lambert has completed her much anticipated, though somewhat overdue, fifth album. The bad news? You have to wait until June 3 for "Platinum." a full two years and eight months since her

Why the wait? Lambert released an album with her Pistol Annies trio in 2013 and extended her tour. She also decided she was at a place in her career where she'd earned the time to fulfill her entire creative vision, and it simply took time.

"From the day you kinda go I need to

start looking for songs and writing songs, it feels like no matter how much time you have, you're rushed," Lambert said. "And so I didn't want to rush it at all. To me it's all about timing and making sure that you can feel like you can finally sit there and go, OK, the album's done, and never have a moment where you go, I wish we could change that or I wish we had a different

An early listen reveals the singer's most ambitious album yet. At 16 songs, "Platinum" sprawls across genre and style and expands on her already adventurous

sense of song choice. She says everyone urged her to trim a few songs and conform to the usual country conventions.

"Now when you listen to it as a whole, what do you take off?" she asked.

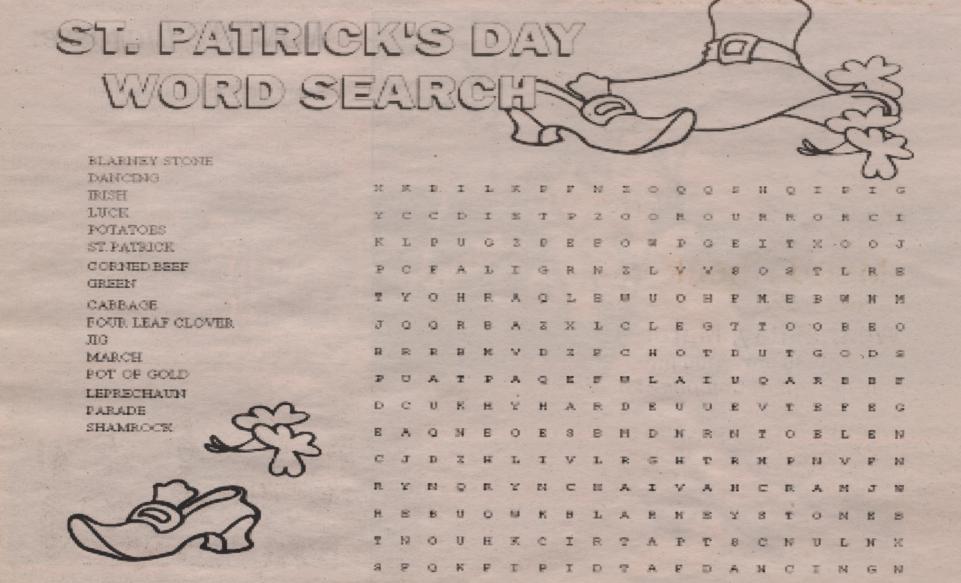
The album paints a picture of Lambert's life as she reaches 30. She wrote or co-wrote eight songs and chose the others based on how they reflected her personality or world view.

The first single, "Automatic," suggests returning to a slower time and way of thinking. She contemplates her self-image in "Bathroom Mirror," takes on tabloid

scrutiny in "Priscilla" and teams up with several guests on songs that underscore her range and willingness to experiment.

The collaboration with Carrie Underwood on "Something Bad" brings together two of country's most popular stars.

"We're really rocking in country music and we're coming together as a force," Lambert said. "To me, like, if you're sitting on the front row, you might want to scoot back. It's a force. It just feels exciting to me. I'm ready to rock."



Sports

Lacrosse Spring Break Recaps

MEN'S lacrosse:

BY KATIE SHEPARD AND SAM BUTLER Sports Editor and Assistant Sports Editor

Over spring break, the men's lacrosse team traveled to Dallas to take on Dartmouth in the Patriot Cup. The Pioneers fell 14-10 to drop to 0-3 on the young season.

Senior midfielder Alex Miller recorded a hat trick, his second of the season. Four Pioneers chipped in two points each. Freshman Jerome Rigor scored two goals for his first career points and seniors Cody Marquis and Matt Gannon contributed, Gannon with two assists and Marquis a goal and assist. Finally, sophomore Alex Dodge chipped in two points with two goals.

The Big Green took an early lead, yet the Pioneers were able to tie the game twice and even take the lead late in the second quarter. However, Dartmouth went on a 3-0 run to lead 10-7 with 13 minutes left in the game.

Sacred Heart answered with a 3-0 run of their own to tie the game with less than 7 minutes to go. Dartmouth regained the lead with back-to-back goals with five minutes to play before adding two more goals in the final minute, capping the score at 14-10.

The Pioneers returned home Saturday and earned an 11-10 victory over Providence to give head coach Jonathan Basti his first career win at the Division I level.

Marquis led the Pioneers with eight points, three goals and five assists. This tied Marquis' performance in 2012 against Quinnipiac and he went over the century mark for career points with 103.

This game was another back and forth affair, yet Sacred Heart was able to win the ground ball battle as well as record more shots than the Friars. Junior goalkeeper Jon Flod made 13 saves on the afternoon.

The Pioneers next will take on Hartford Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. as they play for a cause, a game to benefit the wounded warrior project.

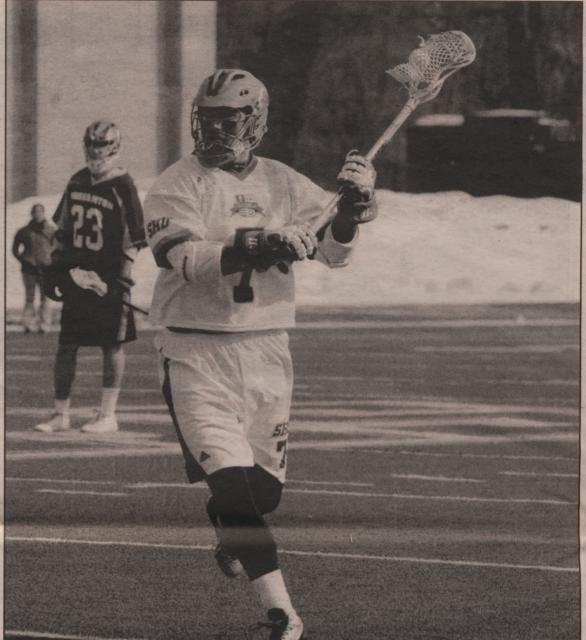
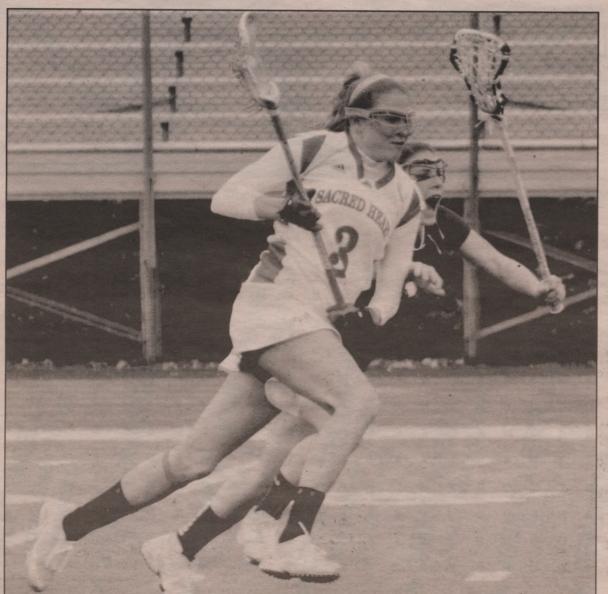


PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN ELLIO

SOPHOMORE ALEC DAUSES RACES DOWN THE FIELD IN A GAME AGAINST BINGHAMPTON EARLIER THIS SEASON.



THE SPECTRUM/ARCHIVES

WOMEN'S lacrosse:

BY KATIE SHEPARD AND SAM BUTLER Sports Editor and Assistant Sports Editor

As for the women's lacrosse team, they traveled to Florida for two games over the break. The Pioneers battled Holy Cross in the first game of the trip, falling 14-9 to open the season 0-3.

The Crusaders got off to a hot start and took a 6-2 lead with just under 10 minutes to play in the first half. Sacred Heart answered with a trio of goals, two from senior Shelby Vaccaro and another from freshman Alyssa Pearce.

The game was a series of runs, and Holy Cross came out of the intermission with two consecutive goals before Vaccaro added another goal. Sophomores Jesslyn Joseph and Jenna Liljeberg each added goals in the losing effort.

Junior goalkeeper Kelly Keenan recorded 12 saves in the loss while also having a game-best eight ground balls and causing three turnovers.

In the second game of the Florida trip, the Pioneers played host Stetson, earning the season's first victory, 13-10. Vaccaro led all Pioneers with five points but it was a very balanced effort offensively.

Joseph and Vaccaro each recorded hat tricks, while six different players scored on the afternoon and five of those players scored at least twice. Keenan recorded nine saves and earned her first victory of the year.

It was a back and forth game, seeing Stetson score the first goal just a mere 41 seconds into the game, but the Pioneers answered with a goal from Pearce. Sacred Heart managed to take a 6-5 lead at the half before finishing the job in the second half.

The Pioneers will return to action Saturday afternoon when they travel to the Unviersity of Vermont for a 1 p.m. game.

Sports

-Gabby Washington, Women's Basketball

Women's Basketball Ends Season in Heartbreak



ERIKA NORMAN AND THE PIONEERS ENDED THEIR SEASON IN HISTORIC FASHION WITH AN 132-124 LOSS AGAINST SAINT FRANCIS.

BY KATIE SHEPARD Sports Editor

The Sacred Heart women's basketball team ended their season Sunday afternoon in a heartbreaking double overtime loss to Saint Francis University in the quarterfinals of the Northeast Conference Tournament, 132-124.

This game became the second highest scoring total in NCAA women's basketball history with a combined 256 points from the two squads. In addition, no team had ever reached over the century mark in tournament history, and both went above the mark in regulation.

"It was all adrenaline," said junior Gabby Washington. "When something big happened, stuff came out of us that I didn't know was possible. We started talking and really played a great game. It just didn't go our way at the end."

Washington totaled 47 points for the Pioneers, setting a career high as well as breaking the school's single game scoring record, a record that had lasted the previous 31 years. Washington also grabbed 10 rebounds to give the junior another double double this season.

R-sophomore Hannah Kimmel and freshman Adaysha Williams, two members named to the NEC All-Rookie team earlier in the week, added 19 and 21 points respectively. Kimmel also hauled in 10 rebounds for another double double as

"I really didn't want our season to end today, so I tried to do what I thought was the best possible option," said Williams. "They gave me the shots and I took them. The team had confidence in me to knock them down, and I did."

After seeing the Red Flash jump out to a 10-0 lead, Sacred Heart head coach Jessica Mannetti was forced to call a timeout, proving to be beneficial for the Pioneers. After the timeout, the Pioneers went on an 8-0 run of their own.

The game was back and forth throughout the first half with several lead changes and lots of momentum shifts. The Red Flash, who had two 40 plus point performances, took a 53-47 halftime lead.

Sacred Heart shot above 50% from the field, but the Red Flash were able to convert from the free throw line and

stay in the game. Down the stretch, turnovers and some missed shots plagued the Pioneers whereas the Flash capitalized on their opportunities.

The game would end in regulation tied at 102. The teams again traded baskets throughout the extra period before knotting the score at 115 and forcing the game to double overtime.

In double overtime, the Red Flash jumped out on a 7-2 run and the Pioneers just could not recover, coming as close as three points in the final minutes. After 50 minutes, the Red Flash defeated the Pioneers 132-124.

This game was one for the record books as Washington as well as Saint Francis University's Alli Williams each scored 47 points, setting a NEC tournament single game scoring record.

"It's a shame somebody had to lose today because I couldn't have asked for a better effort and a better game," said Mannetti. "To watch our team who has really hit some bumps down the stretch of the regular season, show up with lots of energy and excitement, they played their

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PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN ELLIOTT

PLAYbyPLAY

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

SACRED HEART 1, PRINCETON 3

SACRED HEART 1, GEORGE MASON 3

MEN'S LACROSSE

SACRED HEART 11, PROVIDENCE 10

SOFTBALL

SACRED HEART 4, SAINT PETERS 0 SACRED HEART 2, UTAH VALLEY 3

COMINGup

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

SACRED HEART (1-3) @ VERMONT (5-1)

Saturday 1 p.m.

BASEBALL

SACRED HEART (3-4) @ FORDHAM (3-6) Saturday, 12 p.m.

SACRED HEART (3-4) @ FORDHAM (3-6) Saturday, 2:30 p.m.

SACRED HEART (3-4) VS FORDHAM (3-6) Sunday, 1 p.m.

MEN'S LACROSSE

SACRED HEART (1-3) VS HARTFORD(2-3) Saturday, 1 p.m.



Sports

"Our goal is to get to the conference tournament and win the conference tournament. I think we have the guys that can do it."

-Head Coach Nick Giaquinto, Baseball

Baseball Completes Louisiana Trip

BY VINNY EBENAU Contributing Writer

The Sacred Heart University Pioneers baseball team began their season with a seven game road trip to Louisiana, and finished the road trip with a 3-4 record.

Despite the under .500 record on the trip, the box score of the games lived to be nail biting games in relative proximity for a team with a lot of talent moving forward.

The season opening road trip saw many players step up and particular parts of their game were glowing with an impressive nature.

"We competed, we had tremendous pitching all week, we played stellar defense and came up with a few clutch hits," said head coach Nick Giaquinto. "We did leave a lot of guys on base and struck out too much, but I think we'll get there."

The road trip began with three games against Tulane where the Pioneers were able to take the bookend games 3-2 and 6-4, respectively, while falling in the middle by a score of 6-5 to the Green Wave.

Next up for the Pioneers were the Tigers of LSU and the Pioneers were unable to scratch enough runs in a game where LSU won by a score of 8-1.

The final stretch of games was a three game set versus the Lions of Southeastern Louisiana University, where the Pioneers won a tight opener 2-0, but then lost the next two games 6-2 and 2-1, respectively.

All together, coach Giaquinto was impressed with the effort from his team.

"Kody Kerski had two tremendous starts and got two wins. Jason Foley, freshman, first couple times out had two saves," said Giaquinto. "Our position players played very good defense all around."

There were many particulars the coach also noticed about the team in the early stages of the season, especially where the strengths and weaknesses are captured.

HOMETOWN

"Right now, I think pitching and defense are our strengths and we have a couple guys who can put the ball in play. We lost two very close games, so we've been competing," said Giaquinto. "I think besides the pitching and the defense, the way we compete is going to be a big homework of our team."

However much like last years group, this Pioneers team also exemplifies a cerebral core of leadership and teamwork essential to reaching their goals upcoming.

"I think it's a good group. A lot of the guys on the bench are stepping up and taking that role and particularly the older guys, the seniors are doing a nice job," said Giaquinto. "Some of them not as vocal as others, but they're all stepping up and showing some leadership."

With guys like John Murphy '13 and Troy Scribner '13 now playing professional ball, the Pioneers are

looking to a different breed of talent to lead the team to a successful season.

"We had Troy last year as our ace and this year Kody [Kerski], I don't think we've missed a beat, both of those guys are tremendous and should have professional careers," said Giaquinto. "Murphy's a tough guy to replace, but after one week I think Zach Short has done a really good job for a freshman in filling that role both defensively and offensively."

Moving forward, the Pioneers will have a set of games coming up against UConn and Fordham where they look to move forward to their ultimate season ending goal.

"Our goal is to get to the conference tournament and win the conference tournament. I think we have the guys that can do it," said Giaquinto.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEAN ELLIOTT

BASEBALL BEGAN THEIR QUEST FOR ANOTHER NEC TITLE WITH A TRYING ROAD TRIP TO LOUISIANA.

PLAYERS of the WEEK

CODY ANNIE MARQUIS DREHER

Londonderry, **New Hampshire YEAR** Senior **MAJOR** Sports Management SPORT Men's Lacrosse/Attack **GOALS AFTER COLLEGE** continuing his current job as a personal trainer STATS/AWARDS Started all 14 games during the 2013, Scored twice in the **NEC Tournament semifinal** against Bryant on May 2, 2013.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATHLETIC COMML

BEST PART ABOUT PLAYING A COLLEGE SPORT IS BEING PART OF A TEAM WITH ALL YOUR BEST FRIENDS AND TRYING TO WIN A CHAMPIONSHIP



HOMETOWN
Valencia, California
YEAR Senior
MAJOR Accounting
SPORT Softball
GOALS AFTER My goals after
college are to complete my masters here at Sacred Heart and
continue to achieve little success

continue to achieve little successes like finding a job that I love.

STATS/AWARDS Named to NCAA Tournament All-Region Team (College Station, TX).

Selected to the Sacred Heart University All-Rookie Team and earned NFCA Academic All-American honors.

BEST PART ABOUT PLAYING A COLLEGE SPORT IS THE TEAM... THOSE GIRLS ARE MY CLOSEST FRIENDS AND I WOULDN'T BE WHO I AM WITHOUT THEM.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS