

Divine Nine Panel Highlights Brotherhood, Sisterhood and Service

BY WILL MORGAN
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the Black Student Union (BSU) hosted a panel in the Schine Auditorium featuring the “Divine Nine” historically Black fraternities and sororities. These are: Alpha Phi Alpha (APA), Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA), Kappa Alpha Psi, Omega Psi Psi (OPP), Delta Sigma Theta, Phi Beta Sigma, Zeta Phi Beta (ZPB), Sigma Gamma Rho and Iota Phi Theta (IPT).

Most of these Greek organizations were founded at historically Black colleges and universities in the beginning of the 1900s as a response to the racism and exclusion of many other fraternities and sororities of the time, as well as a unifying force for Black students.

The Divine Nine have a lengthy history of supporting civil rights and uplifting Black communities. Many famous faces have been members of one of these organizations, including athlete Micheal Jordan (OPP), musician Dionne Warwick (ZPB) and former-Vice President Kamala Harris (AKA).

Robert Johnson, SHU’s Executive Director of Multicultural Affairs and an IPT brother, believes this is a positive event for our community.

“We want to provide opportunities for students to learn about various cultures whether you’re a white, Black, Indian, Hispanic or a Muslim student,” Johnson said. “Expressing what these organizations mean is very important to give students a glimpse into that reality and history.”

IPT previously had a charter on campus established May 5, 2014. It didn’t last for a variety of different reasons, including that there wasn’t a strong multicultural community at the time. Johnson hopes that with a stronger support system for students of color, these organizations can thrive on campus.

With the efforts of Johnson and many others, AKA recently received a charter on campus. In addition, many students are members of Divine Nine organizations that aren’t yet chartered on campus.

During the panel, senior Gregory Dort, Secretary of BSU, asked representatives of each of the nine organizations questions about their missions, core values and community service initiatives.

The Divine Nine are unanimous in their



Members of each of the “Divine Nine” fraternities and sororities posed for a photo after the conclusion of the panel hosted by SHU Black Student Union.

Will Morgan, Staff Writer and Photographer

commitment to public services, such as providing healthcare to those who can’t afford it, tutoring struggling students, and serving as mentors to those who lack strong role models in their lives. According to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Divine Nine have supported causes such as women’s suffrage, the anti-war movement and the end of segregation, and allied with groups like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People over the past 100 years of their existence.

“The Divine Nine organizations have played a critical role in Black history, U.S. history and even world history. Sacred Heart’s mission of social justice aligns really well with our fraternity, and I think bringing the synergy around social justice between APA and SHU will be ideal,” said Maurice Nelson, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at

SHU and the panel’s APA representative.

This panel nearly filled the Schine and was presented as a colloquium, which students taking CIT 201 and 202 need to attend two of each semester.

Sophomore Shakeel Johnson found the session very informative.

“Being here I was able to see they might be different fraternities and sororities but when they come together they’re truly a family that fights for the same causes to bring the community together for people who need more,” said Johnson.

“This is what we wanted to start Black History Month off with because you get to see how the black community is doing greatness and community service through these organizations, rather than something more fun that we have planned later on like the Black Love Gala we have coming up on [Feb. 13],” Dort said.

Kickstart Your Future at SHU’s Career Fair

BY FERNANDA GUEVARA
Staff Writer

The Center for Career and Professional Development is hosting a career fair on Feb. 18 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the West Campus Atrium. With over 60 employers expected to attend, undergraduate and graduate students will have the opportunity to connect with companies for internship and job opportunities.

The event provides students with access to job opportunities across a variety of fields, including finance, healthcare, education, government, marketing, law enforcement and more. The fair gives students the opportunity to seek positions to gain

hands-on experience in their field of interest.

Senior Director of Career Education, Amy Novak, said students can utilize Handshake to review the list of participating employers.

“The Handshake platform gives students a chance to view the companies attending the fair, allowing them to better prepare and engage in more meaningful conversations,” Novak said.

The Center for Career and Professional Development, located on the second floor of Linda McMahon Commons, is designed to give students the tools needed to transition from academic to professional life. Through personalized career counseling, students can receive expert guidance on job opportunities and potential career paths. The

center also hosts workshops and seminars that focus on enhancing essential professional skills, such as interviewing techniques, resume writing, and optimizing LinkedIn profiles.

“Our office is here to support students throughout their job search process, from scheduling appointments with career advisors to offering direct advice on improving their job application materials,” said Novak.

Junior Yillyan Contreras has attended past career fairs and said the event gives opportunities for students to gain knowledge about potential careers and employers.

See KICKSTART YOUR FUTURE AT SHU’S CAREER FAIR
continued on pg. 3

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News

Spring Colloquia Series Explores Faith, Reason and Purpose

BY BROOKE GODBERSON
Staff Writer

The Human Journey Colloquia series for the spring semester, as part of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition (CIT), began last month and has many more events to come.

The first event of the semester was a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration on Jan. 22 in the the Edgerton Center for Performing Arts.

Dr. Michelle Loris, Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, is the founder and chair of the department of Catholic Studies.

“I founded The Human Journey Colloquia to be an integral part of ‘The Human Journey Seminars: Great Books in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition’ to show students how learning extends beyond the classroom, to demonstrate how Catholic thought permeates into all disciplines, professional studies, contemporary issues, and to address any of the big questions that frame the CIT seminars,” said Loris.

According to the university website, “The seminars engage texts from the Catholic Intellectual Tradition with profound human questions as well as contemporary concerns. The seminars represent a space for students to discuss the most important issues in their lives.”

The Human Journey Colloquia gives the opportunity for students to think deeply about their role in the world and encourages them to reflect on their purpose and how their education at SHU shapes their future.

“I really enjoy that these events always have a story behind them and they’re all really meaningful

and relatable to our everyday life,” said sophomore Madeline Catanese.

These events give a deeper understanding of the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and encourage students to explore how faith and reason work together in addressing life’s biggest questions.

Some of the upcoming events include a Feb. 20 event hosted by Loris at 7 p.m. in the Loris Forum discussing the harms of hate speech as well as a Bergoglio Lecture hosted by Cardinal Sean O’Malley on Feb. 26 at 2 p.m., also in the Loris Forum.

On April 1 at 4:30 p.m., a panel will be held at the West Campus Theatre discussing “The True Cost,” a documentary covering the environmental harms of fast-fashion.

“It is important to me that these events intertwine with the Catholic Intellectual Tradition, not just focusing on religion itself but on a broader horizon. That’s something that is really important to me,” said Catanese.

“I feel that the Colloquia Series will become more broad and hit a different variety of life outside of Sacred Heart University that touch upon the Catholic Intellectual Tradition,” said Catanese. “In the future, they’ll have more speakers to talk about new topics that relate to uprising conversations in today’s society.”

“The spring 2025 colloquia schedule continues in that vein, with an impressive schedule of distinguished speakers from varied fields, interdisciplinary panel discussions, and opportunities for students to actively participate in conversations that connect faith, reason and contemporary society,” said Catholic Studies Prof. Kimberly Feeney.

In particular, social justice, human dignity, and the search for the truth are highlighted in this semester’s colloquia schedule.

“I believe that the colloquia series provides a unique opportunity for learning and growth for each student. In my position as a CIT professor, I am fortunate to witness how powerful some of these experiences are for my students,” said Feeney. “I have read several hundred firsthand accounts of students attending these seminars and lectures, and they are consistently more valuable and moving than students initially anticipate they will be.”

“The Human Journey Colloquia and the CIT seminars continue that ongoing 2000-year-old conversation and ask our students to join in that conversation,” said Loris.

To view the full Colloquia schedule for the spring 2025 semester, visit <https://www.sacredheart.edu/offices--departments-directory/center-for-catholic-studies/the-human-journey-colloquia-series/>.



Daniel Passapera, Sacred Heart University
Holocaust survivor Sami Steigmann speaks at the Kristallnacht Commemoration, an event from the Fall 2024 Colloquia Series.

Student Government Senate Hosts Constitutional Review

BY DYLAN MILANO
Staff Writer

On Feb. 3, Student Government (SG) held an event that focused on revising its Constitution to make its operations more efficient and responsive to the needs of the student body. The event was held at Linda McMahon Commons at 5:30 p.m. and lasted an hour.

Anna Macaulay, Executive Vice President of SG, shared her thoughts on the event and stressed key topics that were discussed, including the role of the Chief Justice, the potential of implementing a point system and the process of constitutional review.

The Constitution is only open to revisions every two years. As the next review period approaches, Macaulay talked about the opportunity to make changes that would improve the functions of the SG. During this meeting, Macaulay noted that the “junior class was very invested.”

One of the major areas under review is the role of the Chief Justice within SG. The responsibility of the Chief Justice is to step in when a member of the SG fails to perform their duties or meet standards.

“The role of the Chief Justice is very important as it will make sure that the Student Government is run smoothly,” Macaulay said.

One idea that’s being discussed is a point system to get members more involved. If someone misses a meeting or doesn’t do their job, they could lose points or “stars.” Macaulay explained that the point system would encourage members to take their responsibilities more seriously and make sure they’re attending meetings and staying active.

“We want to make a system that encourages everyone to participate and ensures all members

are helping make Student Government better,” Macaulay said. “A point system could help make sure everyone stays accountable.”

While the main focus of the event is changes to the Constitution, Macaulay reminded students that SG is always open to hearing from them.

“For students that aren’t in Student Government, the biggest thing that gets brought up is about dining.

Student Government is open to the public and they strongly encourage students to voice their opinions to Student Government so there could be change,” Macaulay said.

Macaulay also stressed the importance of student involvement in making sure SG does its job. She encouraged students to bring their ideas and concerns forward so they can help make positive changes on campus.

“Student Government is a way for students to get more and more involved and we would love to see more of the student body, and we are always looking for more feedback on ways that they can make the campus better,” said freshman Treasurer Nathan Ruggiero.



Members of the Sacred Heart Student Government at the 2023 Hack the Constitution Event.

“I felt very informed and I thought everything that was talked about was very educational and it made me really want to get more involved not just with Student Government, but on campus as well,” said freshman Logan Orland, who attended the event.

According to the university website, the role of Student Government is to “serve as the representative voice of the SHU student body to the faculty and administration.”

The next Senate event is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 17. The Senate meets every week, giving students the opportunity to discuss the issues at hand and shape the structure of SG.

Visit SG on Instagram, @shustudentgov, for info on events and how to get involved.

**UPCOMING
EVENTS ON
CAMPUS**

**WEDNESDAY 2/12:
BINGO
EDGERTON THEATRE
AT 10:10 P.M.**

**THURSDAY 2/13:
BLACK LOVE GALA
THEA BOWMAN HALL
AT 7:00 P.M.**

**SATURDAY 2/15:
MEN'S BASKETBALL
VS. QUINNIPIAC
PITT CENTER
AT 7:00 P.M.**

Features

Campus Celebrates Black History Month

BY MOIRA STAPLES
Features Editor

Since 1976, February has been officially recognized as Black History Month to celebrate the accomplishments of Black Americans. This year, nearly 50 years later, SHU's Black Student Union (BSU) and Multicultural Center are hosting a month-long series of events to educate and appreciate the contributions of the Black community.

To kick off Black History Month, the Multicultural Center held one of their fan-favorite events, a Multicultural Kickback, filled with games, Black History Trivia and community on Feb. 5. Following the event, students were encouraged to attend an intro to the "Divine Nine" Panel in the Schine Auditorium hosted by the BSU, highlighting the legacy of the Divine Nine (D9) historically Black Greek-letter organizations, on college campuses.

On Thursday, Feb. 13, BSU will be hosting their highly-anticipated fourth annual Black Love Gala. This masquerade-themed gala will be celebrating love and community. All are welcome to attend.

"Students are very excited for the events this month, specifically the Black Love Gala, because students have the opportunity to dress up and come together as a community," said BSU President Temitayo Sanusi. "I'm excited to see all the hard work that the e-board and I have put into planning this month pay off!"

BSU Retention Chair, Gregory Dort, said he is looking forward to the Black Love Gala and other events, and stressed the importance of educating people about Black History Month.

"I believe it is important to educate the community on Black History Month so everyone is aware of the struggles, contributions and achievements of Black individuals throughout history," said Dort. "The celebration of this month also combats discrimination within society by promoting awareness, empathy and appreciation for diverse cultures and experiences."

In addition to events on campus, the BSU is partnering with the SHU Community Theatre to celebrate Black History Month with a series of films highlighting the narratives and art of the Black community, including "Judas and the Black Messiah" on Feb. 15 and "Moonlight" on Feb. 23.

The Multicultural Center will be hosting "No, You Can't Touch My Hair" in the Schine Theater on Feb. 19 at 5:30 p.m. to start a conversation about the history, significance, and beauty of Black hair. Students who attend will also receive a gift bag to begin their Black hair care journey.

"From a historical lens, African Americans in America have not received the recognition for their innovation, creativity, and overall intelligence," said Executive Director of Multicultural Affairs, Robert Johnson. "Black history is American history, so it's important to showcase the individuals, the groups, and the time periods in which black people have contributed to the world in such a positive fashion."

All of these events are open to anyone on campus and students are encouraged to get involved. To learn more about Black History Month and upcoming events on campus, follow the BSU and Multicultural Center on Instagram @shu_bsu and @shu_multiculturalcenter_.

Henry Hirsch contributed to this article.



Instagram, @shu_multiculturalcenter_

The SHU Multicultural Center pictured at the Scholarship Gala in April 2024.

Networking for Success with the Women in Business Club

BY ALEXANDRA POND
Staff Writer

The Women in Business network (WIB) gives students the opportunity to collaborate and discuss experiences, seek advice from other members, and build a professional profile. Meeting bi-weekly on Wednesdays from 8-9 p.m. in the Humanities Center wing, the club hosts Q&As, fundraisers, workshops, and LinkedIn networking events that are held throughout the year.

The meetings are held to create a space where women feel safe, confident, and empowered by others. The overall goal for students in the club is to create a sense of community and strive for success, as business fields are typically male-dominated.

Senior Paige Zutaut, President of WIB, said the club is a network that is open to all girls who are looking to build their professional profile.

"Our goal is to make everyone feel empowered and confident in the business industry," said Zutaut.

Senior Tegan Murray, WIB's Vice President, said the club gave her a space where she was able to feel confident. Through meeting other women with similar interests, she was able to grow personally throughout her college career.

"I would definitely say it has given me a sense of empowerment. I feel like when I came in as a freshman, I wasn't always confident, but as I became more involved in the club, I felt more comfortable and empowered from others," said Murray.

On Feb. 4, WIB hosted an event where employees from EY, one of the "Big Four" accounting firms, came in to talk about their advice in business and career journeys.

Murray said students can look forward to a pop-up collaboration between WIB and Here For You Clothing talking about mental health and their journey through business, also featuring some of their pieces.

Isabella Lacerra, WIB's Executive Assistant, said the business field is typically a space where women are underrepresented. Through having a group that shares similar aspirations and goals, she is able to feel empowered.

"To me, being a woman in business means to have power, strength, and drive to accomplish all my goals in a field that women are typically underrepresented in," said

Lacerra. "My favorite event that Women in Business Network has done is our headshot event, giving members the opportunity to have their headshot professionally taken with no cost."

To learn more information about getting involved with the Women in Business club, students can go to @shuwibn on Instagram to fill out the application to join.

Sara Haseney contributed to this article.



Contributed by Paige Zutaut, '25

The Women in Business club pictured at an event where employees from EY accounting firm came to share their experiences.

Kickstart Your Future at SHU's Career Fair

BY FERNANDA GUEVARA
Staff Writer

CONTINUED FROM PG 1

"I went to the fair because I wanted to learn more about jobs I wasn't familiar with. I think it's an effective experience for all students, as everyone can learn something new," Contreras said.

Contreras said for upcoming career fairs, it is helpful for students to have a list of questions in mind to ask recruiters and potential employers. She also said the career fair gives students the opportunity to exchange contact information and continue communication.

Novak said that students should adhere to the "Dress for Success" principle when attending career fairs, emphasizing the importance of professional attire to make a positive first impression on potential employers.

Novak also advised that students bring their resumes, especially if they are looking for internships or jobs. However, since the fair is open to students of all majors and class years, even those not yet ready to submit a resume are encouraged to attend. She



Tracy Deer-Mirek, Sacred Heart University

Students interact with potential employers at the 2023 Career Fair.

also said students should be prepared for what they will say to employers, giving them information on who they are and why they are a good fit.

"Know which employers you want to meet and what you want to say to them. Be prepared with an Elevator Pitch—a brief introduction that highlights who you are, what interests you, why you're qualified, and what you can offer," said Novak.

The Center for Career and Professional Development is hosting an event called "Boost Your Brand: Resume & LinkedIn Essentials on Thursday" on Feb. 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Career Center. Here, students can receive feedback and guidance to enhance their resumes and LinkedIn profiles, helping them to stand out at the job fair.

To learn more about the Center for Career and Professional Development, visit their website, <https://shuconnect.sacredheart.edu/>.

Sara Haseney contributed to this article.



Tracy Deer-Mirek, Sacred Heart University

SHU's Career Fair hosted a variety of employers to share work opportunity with students.

CampusLife

Must Buys at Trader Joe's

BY COLLIN MOURA
Campus Life Editor

Trader Joe's is a staple for college students in need of affordable frozen meals or unique seasonal items. They stock a curated selection of brand products and pre-prepared meals. Here's a quick list of some must buy items at Trader Joe's this February!

New Items:

- Soft Pretzel Twists
- Organic Spaghetti Triangololetti Pasta
- Dark Chocolate Covered Bon Bon Cookies
- Handheld Chicken Pot Pies
- Dark Chocolate Bark
- Portuguese Donuts
- Sprinkle Cake Bites

Classic Favorites:

- Chili & Lime Flavored Rolled Corn Tortilla Chips
- Butter Chicken with Basmati Rice
- Dark Chocolate Peanut Butter Cups
- Sublime Ice Cream Sandwiches
- Steamed Pork and Ginger Soup Dumplings
- Cacio e Pepe Ravioli
- Spicy Chai Tea Latte Mix



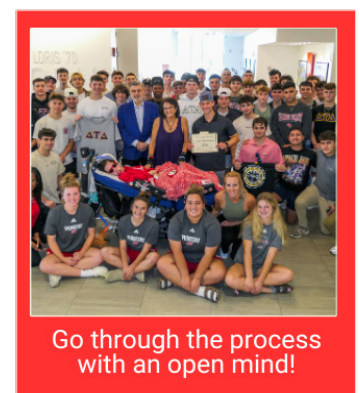
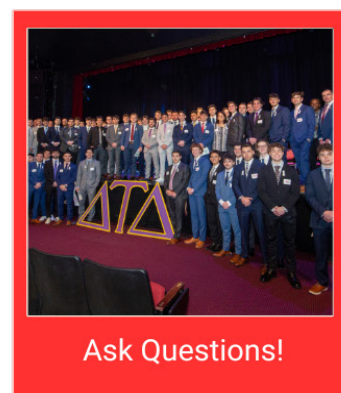
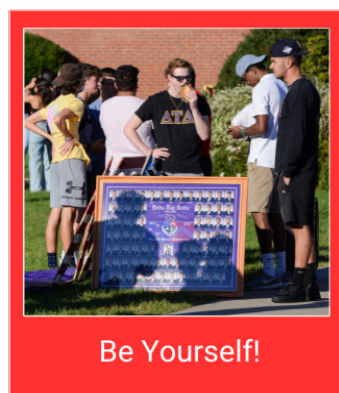
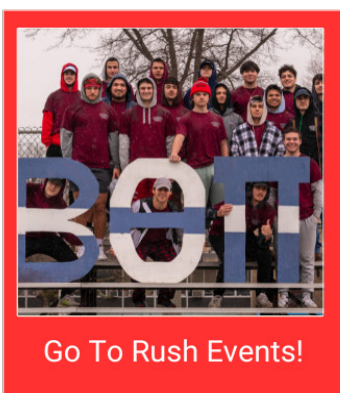
Trader Joe's new Organic Spaghetti Triangololetti Pasta is sure to be a big hit with fans of the popular grocery chain.

Instagram, @traderjoes

Tips on Fraternity Recruitment

BY EMMA RICOTTA
Assistant Campus Life Editor

The six fraternities on campus, Beta Theta Pi, Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Kappa Sigma, Sigma Chi, Pi Kappa Phi and Delta Tau Delta are starting their recruitment processes. Here are some tips on how to go about fraternity recruitment!



For more information regarding each fraternity's recruitment process, check out their instagrams.



Beta Theta Pi: @beta_shu



Sigma Alpha Epsilon: @sae_shu



Kappa Sigma: @kappasigma_shu



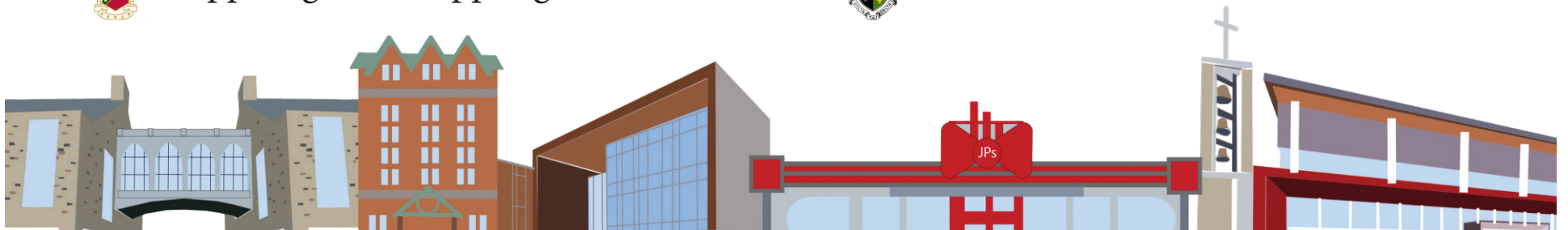
Sigma Chi: @sigmachishu



Pi Kappa Phi: @pikappshu



Delta Tau Delta: @shudelts



Interested in contributing to Campus Life? Contact us at spectrum@sacredheart.edu

CampusLife

Valentine's, Galentine's and Self Love for Valentine's Day

BY EMMA RICOTTA

Assistant Campus Life Editor

Feb. 14 is just around the corner! This specific holiday sparks many different emotions for people. Here is how you can celebrate no matter your situation!

Who cares about Valentine's Day? Celebrate GALentine's Day! Galentine's Day is all about having fun and celebrating your friendships. Throw a party and invite your girlfriends over!

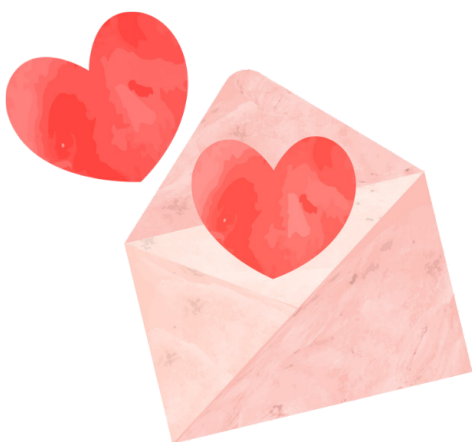
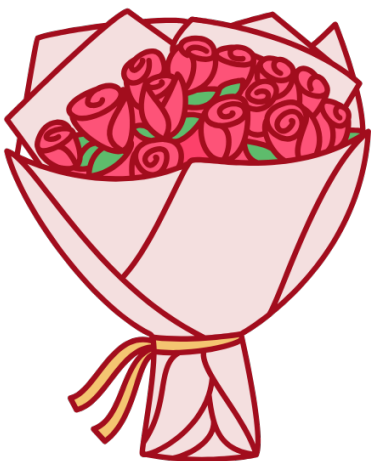
Bake some heart-shaped sugar cookies, dip strawberries in chocolate, have a spa night while listening to a Valentine's Day playlist and watch a rom-com. Who said Valentine's Day has to be all about romantic relationships?

If you will be celebrating with a significant other this Valentine's Day, make sure your reservations are made! Some nice restaurants near campus are Pizzeria Molto, Bar Taco, The Whelk and The Capital Grille. There are so many restaurants nearby, so you will definitely find the right place to celebrate!

Don't forget to buy some treats for your special someone. Here are some gift ideas that won't break the bank! Love letter, box of chocolates, candy, picture frame or scrapbook.

Most importantly, you need to care for yourself regardless of your situation. If it is a solo Valentine's Day or if you celebrate with a significant other, it is so important to practice self-love on a holiday like this. So, have a spa day, order in takeout and listen to your favorite songs!

Valentine's Day is all about love, and the most important relationship is the one you have with yourself. Embrace the joy of being your own Valentine!



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Arts & Entertainment

Mixed Reviews from SHUdents on Grammy Awards

BY SALO PIZON
Staff Writer

The 67th Grammy Awards took place on Feb. 2, kicking off with a cover of Randy Newman's "I Love LA," performed by a combination of acclaimed artists including Sherly Crow, St. Vincent, Brad Paisley and John Legend.

According to the Grammys' website, the telecast raised funds in support of victims of the recent wildfires in Los Angeles. This effort was launched by both the Recording Academy and MusiCare to help the thousands impacted by the crisis.

The Grammys honored the Los Angeles Fire Department by having them present the Album of the Year award. Singers like Beyoncé, Charli XCX, Andre 3000, Jacob Collier, Chappell Roan, Taylor Swift, Sabrina Carpenter and Billie Eilish were nominated in this category.

The coveted win went to Beyoncé for her album "Cowboy Carter," one of three awards she received that night, in addition to Best Country Album and Best Country Duo/Group Performance. This makes her the most nominated artist in history with 99 nominations total.

"I am honestly shocked that Beyoncé won. Billie Eilish should've won Album of the Year," said sophomore Sophie Meyer.

"Beyoncé had a great album, but it wasn't even country. I also feel like Sabrina Carpenter deserved Album of the Year," said sophomore Katherine Leunes. "I am pretty upset about Billie Eilish not getting anything because she is just so talented. The media even made her seem like she was crying out of sadness, even though she was happy for everyone who won."

Other winners in major categories include Kendrick Lamar's "Not Like Us" for Record of the Year and Song of the Year, Chappell Roan for Best New Artist, Doechii's, "Alligator Bites Never Heal" for Best Rap Album and Sabrina Carpenter's "Short n' Sweet" for Best Pop Vocal Album.

"I am so happy that Sabrina won Best Pop Vocal Album. She really deserves it, and I love how we made another Disney star famous for their talent," said sophomore Nicola Cari. "Chappell Roan is one of the greatest vocalists of our generation, and I'm glad she got some recognition."

Another highlight of the night was the outfits worn by the celebrities in attendance. Taylor Swift hit the red carpet with a small charm shaped like a "T" as a nod to her boyfriend Travis Kelce, who played in the Super Bowl on Feb. 9.

"I appreciated what Taylor Swift did with the 'T' charm, it was cute. I love her and Travis Kelce together," said Meyer.

Sabrina Carpenter arrived in an old Hollywood inspired fashion.

"Sabrina Carpenter is so timeless. This new style of hers is everything," said Leunes.

The Grammys also included performances from all Best New Artist nominees,



Instagram, @sabinacarpenter

Sabrina Carpenter posing at the 2025 Grammy Awards with her two awards won for "Best Pop Vocal Album" and "Best Pop Solo Performance."

including RAYE with an emotional rendition of her song "Oscar Winning Tears" and Chappell Roan with "Pink Pony Club," which had the crowd singing along.

The show concluded with singer Charli XCX performing a club-style version of her songs "Von Dutch" and "Guess." She was accompanied by stars like Model of the Year Alex Consani, Gabriette, The Dare and Julia Fox, whose birthday was that day.

"That is just so Julia," Cari said, which is a reference to the Charli XCX song, "360."

Dive into Dingle's Digital World with SCMA

BY ISABELLA GENERAZO
Assistant Arts & Entertainment Editor

Would you like to study abroad in Dingle, Ireland? Well, the School of Communication, Media and the Arts (SCMA) has a program for you.

The difference between studying in Dingle vs. SHU in Fairfield rests in the culture and the different topics you can learn. This experience broadens a student's horizons in a unique way.

"There are five amazing media-related classes available in Dingle throughout the year for the long and short-term programs. Each class gets you out of the classroom and into the vibrant creative town of Dingle," said Prof. Dara Jauch, who teaches in Dingle.

Jauch teaches two courses within SCMA in Dingle: Capturing Your Irish Adventure and an Internship Module.



Instagram, @shuindingle

Senior Billy Kasheta holding a lamb on the Dingle Peninsula with the SHU study abroad program.

"For the Internship Module, I organize a media based role for the student with a local business in Dingle for the semester," said Jauch.

There are many options for studying abroad at SHU and many classes you can take within SCMA in Dingle.

"In addition to hands-on learning and professional development opportunities throughout the semester, students are immersed in the beautiful and welcoming Dingle community," said Renee Pang, Director of Global Education.

"While Dingle may seem remote, it has a thriving creative scene.

From speaking to students, experiential learning is a huge thing," said Pang. "Exposing the students to the media community and industry that exists in Dingle possibly makes it a bit different to home. We don't have large studios but we do have amazing outdoor landscapes and top-class resources at our fingertips."

There are many professors and resources both at SHU and abroad in Dingle to aid students' education.

"If anyone is already in SCMA in SHU, at SHU Dingle we recommend taking media related classes as they expose you not only to the history of film in Ireland, but you also get to do lots of practical work in Capturing Your Irish Adventure and with the Internship module," said Jauch. "With all the above classes, you get exposed to the Dingle media industry, which also immerses you in the community and culture of West Kerry."

According to the SHU in Dingle website, studying abroad in Dingle allows students a chance to learn how to frame the world and enrich their college experience with a semester or short-term abroad.

Sophomore Molly McDonald is currently studying abroad in Dingle and is enjoying her experience there. She feels it is a great learning environment where you get to experience lots of new culture and meet new people.

"I truly am so thankful that I get to be here because of the environment that I am in," said McDonald.

Sunniva Halverson contributed to this article.



Instagram, @shuindingle

Senior Megan Chann (left) and junior Amanda Pizzi (right) completed a 15-week marketing and social media internship for Dingle Sea Safari in 2024.

Sports



Third Time's a Charm for Magdalena Brogioli's Hurdle Record

Instagram, @shu_tfxc

Junior Magdalena Brogioli pictured breaking a university record in the indoor 60-meter hurdle.

BY TAYLOR MAGUIRE
Staff Writer

At the Scarlet Knight Open for track and field, junior Magdalena Brogioli broke another university record in the indoor 60-meter hurdle. The meet took place at the Armory in N.Y. and was hosted by Rutgers University.

Brogioli originally broke this record last season at the Northeast Conference (NEC) championship, running a time of 8.74. This past December, she broke her own record with a time of 8.70.

"Most recently I broke the record again at the Armory running a time of 8.60 seconds, which was significantly faster than the last," said Brogioli.

Brogioli has had a variety of accomplishments in her career at SHU so far, including four athlete of the week awards. Breaking another school record was exciting for Brogioli.

"I feel like seeing that I'm getting faster reminds me that the work I'm putting in is paying off, whether it was a school record or not," said Brogioli. "Knowing that this is the second record I've broken definitely motivates me to keep working hard and trying to break it again."

For the indoor season, Brogioli looks to continue beating the 60-meter hurdles and potentially break the 60-meter dash record.

Sophomore Lauryn Piccirelli is another athlete with various accomplishments,

such as multiple high jump event wins. While facing the difficulties on the high jump, Piccirelli finished the day at the Scarlet Knight Open in third.

"High jump is a very mental event. It's easy to psych yourself out when you're standing 50 feet away from a bar taller than you," said Piccirelli.

To help with the mental aspect of high jump, Piccirelli relies on her pre-meet routine.

"I like to set my intentions for the meet in a journal. Writing this helps me focus on a specific goal I'd like to reach for the meet, whether it's to PR [Personal Record] or to just have fun doing what I love," said Piccirelli.

Brogioli and Piccirelli are both multis, which means they train and compete in multiple events. Both women are preparing themselves for the final stretch of their season at the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) meet.

"I believe our team will make a great debut into the new conference, and I'm very excited to watch everyone, me included, compete to their highest potential," said Piccirelli.

"The conference championship is coming up, so I'm preparing myself for that meet where I will most likely be running the 60m hurdles, 60m dash, high jump and long jump," said Brogioli.

Women's track and field competes in the MAAC championship on Saturday, Feb. 22 and Sunday, Feb. 23 at the Armory.

Sacred Heart Athletics contributed to this article.

Club Women's Basketball Remains Undefeated This Season

BY KEANE PELLETIER
Staff Writer

The women's club basketball team is off to an impressive 11-0 start to the season. SHU is looking to continue their hot streak and make a run at regionals.

They met their cross-town rival, Fairfield University, on Feb. 1 for a two-game set. The Pioneers were able to pull out two exciting wins with both games coming down to the final minutes, 63-58 and 52-47, respectively.

"I think my favorite moment from this season was winning both games against Fairfield, a team we knew would be a tough battle," said junior Gracie Patriarco. "We were missing our core big Taylor Gibbs the first game and lost our starting point guard Dayna due to injury in the first minute. It was amazing to see the team pull together and for different people to step up for not just one game but another right after."

Head Coach Mike Murphy also attested to the team's ability to overcome adversity.

"We showed our depth and the fact that at one point in time we had three freshmen, a sophomore and a junior on the floor when we made a run," said Murphy. "We were down 18-1 in the first quarter, started chipping away and went on a heck of a run."

The team emphasized their hard work and conditioning in practice which contributed to their late game success.

"Our goal is when you get to the second half of the second game, we want to be in better shape, we want to be better conditioned and we want to out execute them because we're not tired," said Murphy.

Junior Liz Portelli credited Murphy for pushing the team to be at their best.

"I mean, we definitely run a lot of practice. [Coach Murphy] tries to keep us in shape so that we know that at the end of the game, even though we're tired, we have that mental toughness too that we're like, I just got to close it, I got to finish it," said Portelli.

The team is set to play Providence, who is number two in the conference with a 6-0 record, on Feb. 22. Senior Taylor Gibbs gave props to the team's ability to show

up ready to every game.

"Preparation for a team like Providence starts with knowing they're going to bring their best game, so we have to match that intensity," said Gibbs. "But it's also about maintaining our own confidence and playing the way we know we can, no matter who we're facing."

The team is optimistic about the remainder of the season, with a focus on regional play.

"Hopefully, we can make a run in regionals," said Patriarco.

Murphy is also hopeful for a successful finish.

"Hopefully, if things go well, we get to go to the regionals again and make some noise," said Murphy.

Team chemistry has been another key to the team's success. Portelli believes the bond they share off the court plays a significant role in it.

"Knowing each other outside of basketball helps on the court," said Portelli.

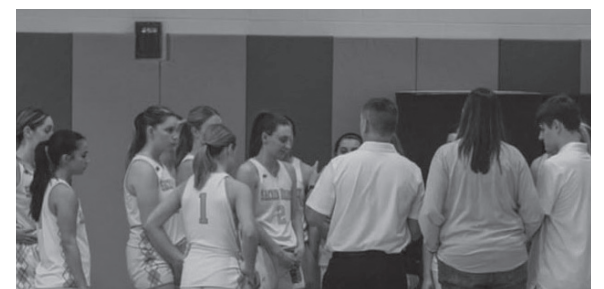
Gibbs shared similar thoughts about the team's chemistry.

"This team means a lot to me, it's more than just basketball," said Gibbs. "It's about the bond we've built together and the growth we've made both on and off the court."

With a strong foundation and clear goals, the SHU women's club basketball team is poised for a strong finish to the season.

"Our record talks for us, so we're doing something right," said Portelli.

SHU women's club basketball will play their next game on Saturday, Feb. 15 at the Valentine Health and Recreation Center at noon against Adelphi University.



Instagram, @shuclubwbb

The women's club basketball team has an impressive record of 11-0 so far this season.

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Inside the Heart of the Figure Skating Community

BY VALENTINA MASSONI
Managing Editor of Content

Figure skating is a unique sport. In most brackets, you compete individually, meaning that you train only to improve your personal techniques. Still, many athletes grow up training alongside their peers as they progress at similar speeds and work toward the same goals. Much like any team sport, members of a particular skating club grow to be a cohesive community, with consistent support for others, despite also being competitors.

This applies even more so to competitive intercollegiate figure skating. Take it from Juliana Prete, senior and co-president of Sacred Heart University's figure skating team, affectionately referred to as the SHUFS.

"This team is one of the most supportive groups of people I have ever met and they create such a strong bond that I have never experienced before," Prete said. "This tightly knit bond is why figure skating is one of the most important things in my life."

As a member of the SHUFS, I can strongly relate to this notion. I have been involved with various sports and organizations throughout my life, and this team has easily been the most supportive group I've had the pleasure of being a part of.

This sense of community extends far beyond just our team because so many figure skaters grow up deeply intertwined with those around them. Sacred Heart's Head Figure Skating Coach, Lisa Fedick said, "The skating community has always been a very tight-knit family, everyone connected by one or two degrees of separation."

This is why the fatal plane crash that occurred on Jan. 29 in Washington D.C. had such a deep impact on the figure skating community. Amongst the victims of the tragedy, were 14 members of the U.S. Figure Skating Association (USFSA), as well as some of their families, according to the Associated Press.

"What struck me immediately hearing the names of those who were lost, was the magnitude of their loss to the entire skating community. The knowledge, skills, and wisdom of those who perished will never be replaced," said Fedick.

These skaters were returning from a development camp in Wichita, Kan. According to the USFSA website, at this camp "athletes participate in a three-day educational training program to accelerate their exposure to High Performance Programs and Team USA."

Six of these skaters were members of the Skating Club of Boston (SCoB).

Junior and member of SHUFS, Sophie Iannelli, was a member of the SCoB for nearly nine years. Iannelli said "I feel the pain that this tragedy has caused in my community, and to those that I grew up with. Watching my community break down with this loss has been incredibly difficult."

One victim of the accident, Alexandr "Sasha" Kirsanov, was a coach at the University of Delaware Figure Skating Club. Fedick recalled fond memories of Kirsanov.

"I always looked forward to seeing him at competitions, he was always happy and upbeat, and so supportive and helpful to all of the skaters, not just his own," Fedick said. "He was one of those people who just made you feel good to be in his aura... We will miss him."

Two days after the plane crash occurred, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) hosted an intercollegiate figure skating competition for all teams that compete in the northeast region. The event began with a moment of silence in honor of the victims of the accident.

In light of the devastating occurrence, skaters found some level of comfort with one another.

"The experience of the MIT competition was one that for me, was filled with gratitude and grief. Seeing my friends from many different parts of my skating life was something that I didn't know I needed after such a tragedy, but the closeness I feel to figure skating has increased tenfold after this competitive experience," Iannelli said.

Prete shared similar feelings.

"I, along with several other skaters at the competition, dedicated my performance to these skaters who lost their lives. The support for one another was beautiful," Prete said. "We were all there to support each other."

Emotions were high for most competitors at the 2025 MIT Figure Skating Classic, but this also inspired powerful performances.

Fedick said, "I watched one personal best after another, and their pure love of their sport was almost palpable in every performance."

Iannelli said, "Seeing a community that can be often filled with competitiveness and rivalry come together in a time of crisis has been beautiful, even though the reason for the togetherness is a heartbreaking one."

Because of the gravity of this tragedy, there is no doubt in my mind that its impact will be felt for years to come, whether through grief, inspiration, heartbreak, or some other incomprehensible combination of feelings.

"This has definitely changed how I view every single practice, performance, or whatever else I am doing. The heartbreak I and so many of my friends have experienced has allowed me to understand the true privilege it is to be able to skate," Iannelli said.

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