

## A Slice of Politics with Senator Blumenthal

BY ALEXANDRA BOTTO  
News Editor



Sacred Heart University photo by Tracy Deer-Mirek

Left to Right: Sen. Richard Blumenthal, Alejandro Ramos (Spectrum Editor), and Dr. Gary Rose answer student questions at the first installment of the Ramos-Rose Political Speaker series.



Sacred Heart University photo by Tracy Deer-Mirek

United States Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) speaks on the War in Ukraine during SHU's Pizza & Politics event.

The Commission on Campus Civic Engagement (CCCE) hosted their Pizza & Politics event at Sacred Heart University on Tuesday Feb. 21 in the East Theater at West Campus. It was the first installment of the Ramos-Rose Political Speaker Series organized by the CCCE, a nonpartisan club at SHU, and featured special guest Senator Richard Blumenthal.

Senator Blumenthal is currently serving in his third term as Democratic United States Senator representing the state of Connecticut. The discussion was structured in a question-and-answer format where he mainly addressed topics regarding contemporary domestic and foreign policy issues.

The event was hosted and moderated by Political Science Professor, Dr. Gary Rose, and Senior, Student Government President, and Spectrum Editor, Alejandro Ramos.

"I think it is important for students to see who represents them rather than just seeing a name on a website and not knowing who they are," said Ramos. "Presence is key."

Much of the conversation focused on the Ukraine War, which on Feb. 24 marked the one-year anniversary of Russia's invasion into Ukraine. The discussion also covered China's potential invasion into Taiwan and the United States' position as a global superpower and what that means when it comes to assisting other nations struggling through conflict

"Everyone thinks that the war in Ukraine is such a polarizing issue, but it's really a bipartisan issue here in America," said Ramos. "We can't allow democracy to fall in Ukraine or in Taiwan; we must do what we can to assist them because if we don't, our democracy will also be at stake."

Senator Blumenthal, a member of the Senate Armed Services, has traveled to Ukraine three times in the past year to meet with President Zelenskyy. The day before his visit to SHU, Senator Blumenthal had just returned from Germany where he attended the Munich Security Conference (MSC), a forum about international security policy led by Blumenthal himself along with U.S. Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).

"We should provide Ukraine with whatever they need, for as long as it takes, and more quickly," said Blumenthal. "I believe that the fight in Ukraine is not just about Ukraine, it's also about the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and our freedom because what Putin wants to do is divide and disrupt western democracy."

Senator Blumenthal stated that the U.S. has no intention of sending troops to Ukraine and that President Zelenskyy does not want or need American aid on the ground right now.

"The people of Ukraine live under a reign of terror," said Blumenthal. "We should be providing them with more air defense equipment and drones. If we give them the weapons they need, they can do the job themselves."

Junior Molly Jacob was a spectator at the event.

"I really enjoyed the event and was able to take away a better understanding of Senator Blumenthal's perspectives on different issues and the impact he has on our country," said Jacob. "My favorite part was having the chance to speak with him one on one because it felt like we were getting to know him on a more personal level."

Conn. Senator Chris Murphy, Governor Ned Lamont, and Congressman Jim Himes have all been invited to campus as potential guests for the Ramos-Rose Political Speaker Series.

"Although I think it's beneficial to have these politicians as possible guests because they are representatives for the district that Sacred Heart represents, they are all Democrats," said Ramos. "It is important to bring in members from the other side of the aisle to showcase other perspectives and have healthy conversations with those who may not necessarily have the same political views as you."

Ramos hinted that one of the next speakers may be a Republican candidate running for President in 2024.

"I believe it is absolutely essential to bring political officials into speak to college students," said Rose. "While we do promote public service at this university, I think it is still very important for students to not only hear about it, but to see and talk to individuals who live it."

Visit Our Website  
for even more  
Spectrum Content!

SCAN ME




## LOCATIONS NEWSPAPER RACKS

<b>Hawley Lounge</b> (next to stairs)	<b>Martire</b> (first floor by the main staircase)
<b>CHE</b> (Inside by front doors)	<b>Spectrum Office</b> (in the SCMA Wing)
<b>Library</b> (inside front doors)	<b>Curtis Hall</b> (inside the front doors)
<b>West Campus (West Building)</b> (first floor lobby)	<b>Linda's</b> (first floor)
<b>West Campus (East Building)</b> (outside Cafe Rosso)	<b>Pitt Center</b> (inside front doors)
<b>Thea's Abbey</b> (lobby)	<b>SC Wing</b> (first floor near 63's and Edgerton)
<b>Melady Hall</b> (inside front doors)	<b>Pio's Kitchen</b> (inside front doors)
<b>63's</b> (outdoor glass doors)	

# News

## MSU the Target of Another Mass Shooting in 2023

BY ERIN CLARK  
Staff Writer

A gunman opened fire at Michigan State University (MSU), in East Lansing, Mich., on Feb. 13. Three people were killed, and five more were left injured. This attack took place in an academic building, Berkey Hall, and a student hub, MSU Union.

The perpetrator was identified to be a 43-year-old male who had no affiliation to MSU. Later on in the evening of the attack, he was confronted by the police and fatally shot himself.

During the shooting and the hours the police spent looking for the suspect, terrified students were left hiding in classrooms, cars, and around campus.

“Research tends to point to the fact that college campuses are such a common target because they are so open and there are always ‘suitable targets’ walking around,” said SHU criminal justice professor and expert in victimology, Dr. Analisa Gagnon.

Since the start of 2023, the United States has already been through 71 mass shootings, according to USA Today. Last year, there were over 600 mass shootings.

“Although I was saddened to hear about the shooting in Michigan, I was not surprised,” said sophomore Leena Abdulrahman. “Unfortunately, in the U.S. it is only a matter of time until it will happen somewhere else.”

Abdulrahman grew up not far from SHU, in Newton, Conn., where the deadly Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting took place.

“It is shocking to see it on a college campus given that I am also a college student and am on campus every day,” said junior Abby Lockwood. “There is this sinking feeling that it could happen to any of us.”

As a result of this event, SHU students are thinking of their own safety on campus.

“After the Sandy Hook shooting, all schools in Newtown had a police officer on duty, locked their classroom doors, and had an extensive sign-in and



Instagram, @michiganstateu

The Michigan State community gathers for a candlelit vigil held on Feb. 21.



Instagram, @barstoolmsu

MSU mascot kneels in front of memorial for victims of the recent shooting.

sign-out procedure every day. I always felt safe under those rules,” Abdulrahman said.

Although SHU has not experienced an event like this, Public Safety and neighboring police forces know of the consistent possible threat.

“The key in any preparation is prevention. We utilize infrastructure, training, reporting and partnerships to detect and respond,” said Gary MacNamara, Executive Director of Public Safety and Governmental Affairs. According to Public Safety, SHU has large amounts of infrastructure, including cameras and control locks. Additionally, Public Safety maintains a strong relationship with local, state and federal public safety partners, sometimes training with them.

“The overall structure of campus is well maintained,” said Gagnon. “The newer buildings do not have wide open windows along them and you have to pass by a security booth getting into most entrances.”

Gagnon chooses to teach her classes with the door shut, as research has shown this would deter an active shooter due to their goal being to get as many bodies as possible.

“Anytime there is an incident, it affects all of us. We need to continue to be diligent in our efforts,” said MacNamara. “It is important for the SHU community and Public Safety to continue to come together and share concerns.”

MSU canceled all campus events held for the following 48 hours after the attacks. According to MSU Today, there were vigils in both the auditorium and “The Rock” on-campus to mourn those who were lost or injured in the attack.

“We cannot become numb to gun violence. No one should be comfortable with hearing this type of news,” said Lockwood.

*The Associated Press contributed to this article.*

### UPCOMING EVENTS ON CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY 3/1:

**SENIOR PUB NIGHT**

AT RED'S PUB STARTING

AT 8 P.M.

THURSDAY 3/2:

**GEL SCAPE AIR**

**FRESHENERS**

IN THE THIRD FLOOR OF

LINDA'S. BEGINS AT 10

A.M.

**AFTER SPRING**

**BREAK**

FRIDAY 3/17:

**SHAMROCK SHAKES &**

**DIY BRACELETS**

IN THE THIRD FLOOR OF

LINDA'S AT 6 P.M.

SATURDAY 3/18:

**PERSONALIZED**

**BOOKMARKS WITH THE STUDENT EVENTS TEAM**

IN THE THIRD FLOOR OF

LINDA'S AT 5 P.M.

### Car Break-Ins Affecting SHU Students

BY ALENA KLADIS  
Staff Writer



Daniella Baldino, Staff Photographer

Sign welcoming people to Bridgeport, where there has been a recent string of car break-ins.



Daniella Baldino, Staff Photographer

Two Bridgeport police cars parked on Eckhart Street in front of Pioneer Gardens, where many Sacred Heart students reside.

There have been multiple car break-ins recently in the North end of Bridgeport. Many of the victims have been students of Sacred Heart University who live in off-campus homes.

Kelsey Fithen, a senior at SHU, is one of the victims. According to Fithen, her car was locked and parked in front of her home on the night of Thursday, Feb. 16 when the crime occurred.

She had parked her car outside her home around 10 p.m. and found it broken into around 10:30 a.m. the next morning. She had cash stolen from her, along with part of her fuse box ripped out and her belongings thrown around in the car.

“Personally, I feel extremely violated. The fact that I am supposed to come back to the house every night scares me,” said Fithen. “It makes me feel isolated from campus and vulnerable.”

Fithen isn't the only student at SHU who was a victim of these car break-ins. Juniors Maggie Devlin and her roommate Catherine Phillips were also victims of this crime at their off-campus home.

According to Devlin, on Jan. 22, just a couple of days before her roommate's car was broken into, she woke up to find the trunk of her car left open in their driveway. She thought this was strange considering she remembered locking her car, but nothing was stolen.

Two days later around noon on Tuesday, Jan. 24, Phillips noticed something was off while getting in her car to go to class.

“I had looked into the front window of my car and I noticed my glove box and my console had been ransacked,” said Phillips. “They had picked the lock to my car door and left it slightly open.

Everything had been thrown on the floor, soda was spilled all over my seat, and 70 dollars had been stolen from me.”

According to Devlin and Phillips, one of their other roommates had recalled hearing shuffling and noise coming from outside their window around 1 a.m. that night. She assumed it was their neighbor at the time.

Devlin, Phillips, and Fithen all noticed that their cars were parked out of sight of their doorbell cameras. They all took the necessary steps in calling the police and reporting these incidents to SHU Public Safety as well.

“I would urge students to make sure that their car is in view of their Ring Doorbell camera and to not leave anything of value in their car,” said Fithen. “No matter where you are, in Bridgeport or even at home, don't assume that it can't happen to you.”

On Feb. 17, SHU Public Safety sent out an email reminding students, faculty, and staff of the necessary steps they should take to help avoid being a victim of these car break-ins.

“Lock your vehicle's doors when unattended, close all your windows each time you leave your car, park in well-lit areas, clear your vehicle's interior of any valuables, stow your electronics and accessories out of sight, install an audible alarm system, and report to Public Safety if you witness suspicious manner,” said the email sent by Public Safety. “Taking these steps may prevent you from being a crime victim.”

# Features

## Opportunities with iHub

BY SARAH MARGERISON  
Staff Writer

Sacred Heart University and Verizon have partnered to create a space where businesses and students can collaborate called iHub.

Located on West Campus, iHub is a space for businesses to collaborate with SHU students in an equally beneficial environment.

"The iHub model is a space for small businesses to grow through the help of Sacred Heart students," said iHub Assistant Community Manager and SHU alumnus Jonathan Kennedy. "Likewise, it's a space for students to grow through the experience of thought leaders or solopreneurs."

Kennedy also mentioned that collaboration between business owners and students provides generational learning opportunities. For example, a student may be more knowledgeable about current technology and teach others more about their own expertise while being taught by professionals in the business.

While iHub is not directly tied to Sacred Heart other than location, businesses are willing to provide internships and opportunities for SHU students.

As a former intern who worked in the iHub space, Kennedy explained how the location is convenient for SHU students.

"Students were able to get more hours in work but feel like they had more management of their week. They spent less time commuting," said Kennedy. "The iHub was a home base for when I was jumping back and forth between classes."

Junior Melanie Mercereau, who is a current Marketing and Sales Intern for LivFree, explained how iHub provided her an internship opportunity that gives her real world experience. LivFree is a nonprofit that helps children battling pediatric cancer. Mercereau found the internship through her membership in SHU's Marketing Club.

"I love working for Livfree because it is a smaller business and allows me to have a bigger marketing role," said Mercereau. "It is such a good environment that I truly look forward to going to and seeing the people I get to work with at LivFree."

Mercereau recently worked on a marketing plan for the Joydrive fundraiser run by SHU Fraternity and Sorority Life. They were able to raise \$9,000 for families of children battling pediatric cancer.

"I am truly so grateful for the connection, as I love the work I get to do and the families I impact working with LivFree," said Mercereau. "We get to make such a positive impact on so many families' lives."

iHub is also a space that holds classes for different majors and an open area for students to hold online interviews and internships.

Junior Social Work major Kayla Goncalves has been to iHub twice for her Social Work Seminar class. "My professor holds class in the iHub sometimes to teach us about a specific program we use for the class," said Goncalves. "It's a great place to hold small classes and meetings, or just a clean, open space to get work done."

Students are able to get involved in iHub internships and businesses through the Center for Career and Professional Development portal, or through Handshake. There is also a bulletin board in the East Building with all of the job postings listed.

"While our doors were shut through COVID, we're excited to physically get students back into the office and learn about the opportunities we have for them," said Kennedy. "If students are in need of any bookable space, we can now accommodate them."

iHub is located on the second floor of the West Campus building. To learn more about iHub, visit their website at [shuihub.com](http://shuihub.com) or their Instagram: @shuihub.



Sacred Heart University photo by Tracy Deer-Mirek

iHub lobby and workspaces located on West Campus, powered by Verizon.

## An Internship that Gives Back to the Community

BY RYAN MCNEIL  
Staff Writer

Two Sacred Heart University students are contributing to the local community while furthering their own education this semester. Seniors Cassidy MacNamara and Cassidy Lombardo of the Isabelle Farrington College of Education & Human Development have been screening children in Bridgeport schools for signs of dyslexia as part of their spring semester internship.

"I'm very excited that I get to be a part of making a difference by identifying risk factors for dyslexia," said MacNamara.

Children ages 4 through 6 are screened at A.J. Lewis Academy and St. Anne's School using a program called Early Bird. A series of tablet-based games, Early Bird provides an engaging assessment of the child's ability.

According to a press release from the university, Lombardo said, "Some of the responsibilities I have include creating a safe and comfortable environment for students."

Accordingly, MacNamara said, "We support the students as they complete the screener and assist when needed."

Katie Cunningham, an Associate Professor of Elementary Education, arranged the internship with The Southport School, which specializes in working with children with dyslexia and language-based learning disabilities. She invited her students to participate in the school's goal to screen the children in Bridgeport schools.

This initiative is also a personal one for Cunningham. "My youngest son has dyslexia and is a student at The Southport School," said Cunningham. "The Southport School has changed his life in immeasurable ways academically but also socially and emotionally. When a child has difficulty with reading and writing and their instructional needs aren't met, life can unravel for that child."

The screenings supply information crucial in tracking a child's progress and can lead to further testing if needed. The

data collection allows them to identify those with dyslexia as early as possible and provide them with the necessary tools to succeed at a young age.

"We have a 'wait to fail' model in schools," said Cunningham. "Catching readers before they fail gives schools an opportunity to provide immediate intervention."

MacNamara said, "This is the window when intervention is most effective."

Junior Kayla Goncalves is a social work major and knows how vital these programs are. "If Sacred Heart builds bonds with other organizations within the community, then the community itself becomes stronger," said Goncalves. "As someone whose education at Sacred Heart is built around working with other communities/organizations, I get to see firsthand just how great these bonds can be."

According to a press release from the University, FCEHD Dean Michael Alfano said, "The 'Cassidys' are doing amazing, innovative, and incredible work to make a difference in Bridgeport schools. These two students are true Pioneers."

While serving the community, the experience has been invaluable for MacNamara and Lombardo.

"This opportunity has been a great learning experience," said MacNamara. "I can take what I have learned at SHU and apply it in the classroom."

Cunningham expects more students to become screeners next year and praised MacNamara and Lombardo's service.

"They will change the lives of countless children in their careers thanks to this experience," said Cunningham. "I am so proud of the work Cassidy and Cassidy have done as the first ambassadors of this initiative. They have paved the way for future SHU students to have the same hands-on experience."



Sacred Heart University photo by Tracy Deer-Mirek

Seniors Cassidy Lombardo and Cassidy MacNamara screen children for dyslexia.

# Features

## Student Nurses Helping Make a Change

BY SAMANTHA KATZENBACK  
Staff Writer



Sacred Heart University photo by Tracy Deer-Mirek  
President Dr. John Petillo pictured donating blood alongside Sacred Heart student Natalie Marques.

The Student Nursing Association (SNA) at Sacred Heart University partnered with the American Red Cross and hosted a blood drive on Feb. 22.

For the first time, the blood drive took place in the West Campus Atrium from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Senior Nicolette Mascioli, President of the Student Nursing Association, said a great deal of preparation went into hosting this blood drive. "The main preparation, aside from having students sign up to help at the drive, is having the representative from American Red Cross come and find an appropriate location on campus to have the event take place," said Mascioli.

Once the SNA decided to host the drive in West Campus, they were able to gather volunteers. "From there, we send out the links to sign up to both donate blood and volunteer their time to help, and then we go to the event for when the organization is setting up in preparation to obtain the blood," said Mascioli.

The blood drive offered a total of 68 spots for individuals to sign up and donate.

"Signing up for the blood drive was easy," Mascioli said. "Our nursing students get priority to sign up for the blood drive. This is done through a link through the American Red Cross. All they need to do is click that link which brings them to the blood drive happening at Sacred Heart University. If there are more spots, we open it up to faculty."

For this event, members of the SNA were assigned different roles so that the blood drive was well organized and went as planned. These roles included set up, registration, nutrition station, bathroom monitoring, greeting, and clean up.

Junior Olivia Arnold was assigned the role of greeting donors. "My specific role was to greet the people coming in to give blood. For the time I was there, we had a

couple of walk-ins which I was so happy about! Our role was to schedule them to keep the blood drive running as smoothly as possible."

Members of the SNA were very grateful to host such a rewarding event. "As nurses, we will be giving blood transfusions frequently. We will be able to see firsthand how vital these transfusions are to saving our patients lives. Some of us have already been able to witness it in clinical trials! To be able to host an event that allows us to meet the donors who make it all happen is extremely special," said Arnold.

Some students at Sacred Heart recognized the initiative that SNA had taken to host a blood drive. "It's easier to donate blood when the blood drive is easily accessible. I think that the SNA hosting a blood drive on campus gives SHU students a great opportunity to donate blood because there is no need for transportation. The opportunity is brought to you," said senior Nicole Lemos.

Accordingly, Arnold agreed that the drive was a great success. "I thought it was wonderful to see people from our local community coming to donate, not just students. It's just such a humbling experience to see everyone come together and take an hour out of what I am sure is a very busy day to help," said Arnold.

If you are interested in donating blood this semester the SNA will be hosting two more blood drives, one on March 13 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and one on April 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Sacred Heart University photo by Tracy Deer-Mirek  
Sacred Heart students and faculty were able to give blood at West Campus.

# Audrey's Corner



## Literature and Justice

This week Audrey's Corner provides book recommendations from Sacred Heart students Jillian Reis, Ayasha Cantey, and Kailey Blount with themes of social justice and empowerment.

"What My Mother And I Don't Talk About" by Michele Filgate

Michele Filgate's "What My Mother and I Don't Talk About" found me in a time of reflection. Home for the summer, memories of childhood followed me down familiar roads. Filgate's short story collection is an ode to memory. It is a cathartic read. A reflection of our most complicated of relationships. Fifteen authors share varied stories of the women who gave them life, giving readers space to reflect on our own. In a time where motherhood is too often politicized, "What My Mother and I Don't Talk About" humanizes the experience of womanhood. - Kailey Blount '23

"A Time To Kill" by John Grisham

The book "A Time To Kill" by John Grisham is a heart wrenching story that follows the path to justice. This book forces you to question ethics to determine if two wrongs make a right. Does the color of one's skin change the level of justice someone deserves? This book gives you a lens into a world filled with hatred and chaos. But could looking at the world through a different lens change it all?

A 10 year old black girl is brutalized by two drunken white men. The men believed they did nothing wrong. With a corrupt justice system that was bound to let them walk, the father of the little girl decided to take justice into his own hands. - Ayasha Cantey '25

"DPS Only!" by Velinxi

"DPS Only!" is a graphic novel about a young girl, in the shadow of her popular esports champion brother, becoming a professional player while learning about how women are treated in the industry. This book pushes for female empowerment in a subtle way and in an area where women are rarely highlighted if at all. Esports and gaming can be a lot of fun, but for women who want to make a living from it, it also comes with a lot of ridicule and harassment. The book is also a graphic novel which is a genre that is overlooked as being more for children, so it is refreshing to see the medium used to talk about more serious topics. - Jillian Reis '23



# Spotlight



## Pioneers Being Pioneers

BY ALEJANDRO RAMOS, COLLIN MOURA, & ISABELLA FABBO  
Spotlight Editor, Photography Editor, Assistant Photography Editor

Pioneers Being Pioneers depicts some of our community members living up to our school's mission and core values:

"Promotion of the common good of society"

"Recognition of the dignity and worth of every human being."

\*All photos contributed by the Sacred Heart University photo shelter\*



Scan this QR code to recommend a member of the community to be one of our Spotlight members; students, staff, faculty/professors, and administration.



# Arts & Entertainment

## Cohen & Goncalves at the Chapel

BY PAUL KEEGAN  
Staff Writer



Promotional poster for the "Direct From Brazil" event.

It was a cold, rainy evening at Sacred Heart University (SHU) on Feb. 22. Some on campus might have heard the crackling of a drizzling rain or the whistle of a cold wind, but for those in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, they heard nothing but the warm melodies of Brazil.

Anat Cohen and Marcelo Goncalves, two Grammy-nominees, treated the SHU community to an intimate concert featuring selections from their past albums, and a look ahead at upcoming projects.

Professor Joe Carter, Director of Academic Music Programs at SHU, spoke about bringing the concert to campus.

"They came to the university to play three

years ago," said Carter. "Right before we shut down because of Covid. They had done a recording that I really enjoyed, and I went to one of their performances, introduced myself, and said 'if you're ever back in Connecticut, I'd love to have you come back to the university and play.'"

Carter said he is always looking for new and exciting artists to bring to campus that showcase the diverse music of the world. It's part of his attempts to broaden the musical palette of his students.

"There are other organizations in the school who present concerts," Carter said. "So I'm thinking about what they bring in and who I'm able to bring in, and I want to give the students a cross-section of things."

After Cohen and Goncalves' initial performance in February of 2020, plans were already in motion for their return. Come March, however, the world was hit by the

pandemic, putting their return on an indefinite hold.

Carter remained in contact with Cohen and Goncalves throughout the pandemic and about five months ago asked the artists, both residents of Brazil, when they would be able to return to SHU. Schedules aligned, and they settled on Feb. 22.

After the concert's introduction from Carter, Cohen and Goncalves emerged from backstage to excited applause, their respective instruments in hand.

"We're grateful for people like you," Cohen said. "People like you who seek this out, who appreciate this shared experience of live music."

They each took a breath, looked at one another with a smile and the concert began.

Cohen, a clarinetist the *New York Times* refers to as a "revelation," earned a hearty applause after every solo she performed. Goncalves, playing the seven string violão, a Brazilian-style seven string guitar, provoked many in the audience to tap their feet and sway in their seats, ebbing and flowing with the music.

"We were last here about three years ago, it feels more like 20," said Cohen. "We don't take being on this stage for granted."

"It's such a pleasure to be here. Thank you," said Goncalves.

Apart from their immense talent, Cohen and Goncalves performing Brazilian standards is part of why Carter wanted them to come to campus.

"Diversity is important in all areas, but especially with music," said Carter. "I start my courses by telling students that I'm going to play them music they normally wouldn't have an opportunity to hear. And to me, that's the college experience. Broadening horizons. Music is the best way to do that."

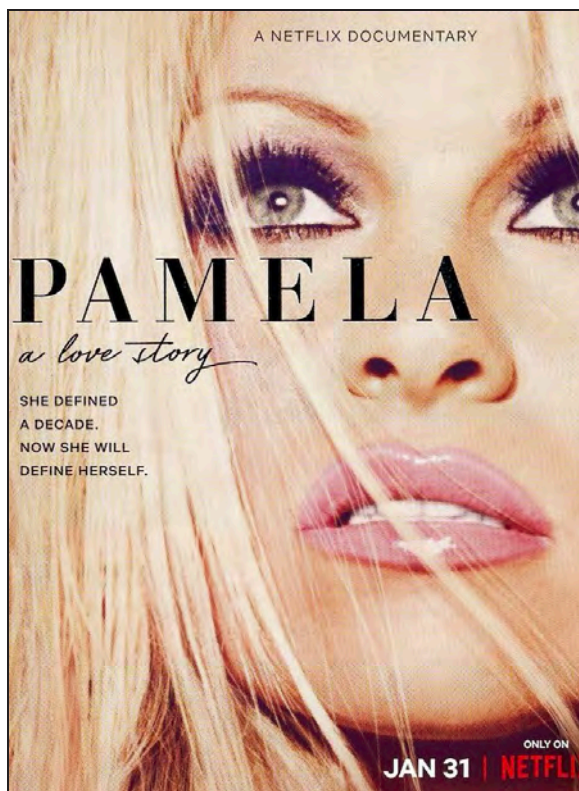
"Reconvexo," the latest collaboration from Cohen and Goncalves, is available on CD, Vinyl, and Spotify.



Chairs and microphones placed during concert set up on Feb. 22 in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit.

## Pamela Anderson Tells Her Story

BY HAIELY GENZALE  
Staff Writer



The official poster for Netflix's "Pamela, A Love Story," which premiered on Jan. 31.

On Jan. 31, Netflix premiered, "Pamela, A Love Story." Co-produced by her son, Brandon Thomas Lee, the documentary takes a dive into the life of famous actress and model Pamela Anderson, featuring her in new ways.

With transparency, Anderson reveals the hardships and success she's had throughout her life and career. From when she was a child to now, viewers are shown details in between.

"I really enjoyed the depth of it all, it brought out a whole new side of her that we never really got to see," said sophomore Jillian Surfus.

According to Netflix, "The film explores the pains and joys of her childhood, the early days of her career at *Playboy*, her rise to icon status after being cast on *Baywatch* and becoming a mom."

According to Capital FM, she posed for *Playboy*, which is an American men's lifestyle

perspective of her. "I wasn't expecting to hear some of the things that she has gone through, especially as a child, it truly broke my heart," said Surfus.

Anderson has had five different husbands including Kid Rock, Rick Salomon, Jon Peters, Dan Hayhurst, and Tommy Lee, who she has two kids with.

"I feel like people are really quick to judge her, especially seeing how many people she has been with," said Walters.

The documentary goes in depth with her marriage with Lee. The love, the loss, the heartbreak, the betrayal, it's all shown.

"Honestly, to see how her marriage with Tommy Lee ended was very sad to watch. I felt really bad for her," said sophomore Peyton Brooks.

Anderson was transparent with her experiences of abuse, molestation, and rape throughout telling her story.

"I admire her for being so open about it," said Walters.

The film goes into detail as to how being sexualized affected her and how people would treat her because of it.

"Truly devastating," said Brooks, "It really shows the false image some people have of a woman."

Anderson is an advocate for Mercy for Animals, PETA, National Domestic Violence Hotline, and many others.

"It completely changed my perspective of who exactly Pamela Anderson is, and everyone who knows her name should turn on Netflix and educate themselves with this beautifully made documentary," said Brooks.



Pamela Anderson posing for a playful shot for Queue amidst the release of her documentary.

and entertainment magazine, for 22 years. That's more than any other model in the publication's history.

"I think everyone needs to watch this documentary," said sophomore Brooke Walters. "People should know what this woman went through, and she should be praised for it."

One of the main features in the documentary are Anderson's diaries and personal notes. Since she was little, Anderson has wrote down details of her life and the experiences she's had. These diaries are read aloud to viewers in the documentary.

Along with the diaries, Anderson's personal home videos were also shown.

"They made me feel more connected to her when they were shown, it had the effect of making it feel like I was actually there with her," said Surfus.

In the film, Anderson reveals some secrets about her childhood, and it gives a new

# Sports

## Men's Volleyball Makes Statement NEC Win

BY JOHNNY GREENE  
Staff Writer

The Sacred Heart University (SHU) men's volleyball team served up their first Northeast Conference (NEC) win on Feb. 17 against D'Youville University. This is the first season that the Pioneers are competing in the NEC.

They controlled the floor, capturing a victory in three consecutive sets. "We were super pumped for that," said junior Pat Mucherino. "Not only was it our first conference win this season, but our first ever NEC win which is a huge deal to us."

Mucherino had a stellar performance in his first taste of NEC volleyball. He recorded 14 kills, four blocks, with an efficient .478 hitting percentage.

"Prepping for D'Youville was just like any other team," said Mucherino. "We focused on them the whole week and were mimicking their habits in practice to work on tactics to stop them."

Senior Tyler Kwinta also had a big day on the court for the Pioneers, accumulating 31 assists.

"Going into the game versus D'Youville we mainly focused on things that we can control, which is serving and passing," said Kwinta. "We knew that if we did those things well the rest of our play would take care of it."

Junior Mark Berry was another key piece to the victory as he totaled 11 blocks and 13 kills with an impressive .529 hitting percentage. The six-foot four inch outside hitter was previously awarded the NEC player of the week on Feb. 1.

"It was good to know that some of the hard work is paying off," said

Berry. "I know that just my name was on there but my teammates played a big role in it. It's a big personal achievement for me, but nothing would mean more to me than Sacred Heart being NEC champions."

It was a slow start to the season for the Pioneers, who lost five out of their first six games, but they have put together some wins as of late with three in their last five.

"We didn't come out the gates firing as hard as we wanted to but everything is starting to work out and look up for us going into conference play," said Mucherino.

The confidence for the remainder of the season remains high for the team as they hit the halfway mark on their season.

"I have pretty high expectations for the rest of conference play," said Kwinta. "I believe we have the ability to beat anyone in the conference."

The ability to play with confidence comes from five core values that the team prioritizes.

"Our team's culture is based around five key principles which are accountability, hard work, determination, togetherness, and respect," said Kwinta. "We come into the gym every day saying the phrase - we will work hard and do great things."

The men will be back on the court on March 10 to take on Merrimack at the Pitt Center.

"The team culture is super-tight knit," said Mucherino. The foundation and specific values are setting a precise vision for the team."

*Sacred Heart Athletics contributed to this article.*

- WATCH THE PIONEERS IN ACTION:**
- WEDNESDAY 3/1:  
**MEN'S BASKETBALL** VS. WAGNER COLLEGE IN THE PITT AT 7 P.M.
- THURSDAY 3/2:  
**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** VS. WAGNER AT 7 P.M. IN THE PITT CENTER
- FRIDAY 3/3:  
**MEN'S ICE HOCKEY** VS. NIAGARA AT 7 P.M. IN MARTIRE FAMILY ARENA
- SATURDAY 3/4:  
**WOMEN'S LACROSSE** VS. MONMOUTH AT 11 A.M. (NECFRONTROW.COM)
- MEN'S LACROSSE** VS. DREXEL AT 12 P.M. ON CAMPUS FIELD



The SHU men's volleyball team celebrates after defeating D'Youville University 3-0.



John Greene, Staff Photographer  
Captain and junior infielder Jenna Mowad pictured on Media day.



Instagram, @celtics  
Jayson Tatum poses with the NBA All-Star MVP trophy.

## Back on the Diamond

BY JENNA LETIZIA  
Co-Sports Editor

The Sacred Heart University women's softball team opened up their season going 2-3 down in Greenville, S.C. at the Furman Invitational from Feb. 17-19.

After beating Bellarmine University 9-4 in their opening game on Feb. 17 and Binghamton on Feb 18, they fell to Bellarmine in their second game against each other and then to Furman and Towson.

Head coach Pam London, entering her fourth year as head coach, is very confident in her team's abilities going into the season.

"I am very optimistic and excited for this season," said London. "We have a great group of talented young ladies who are really good teammates to each other as well. I truly think we are a more solid team than last year."

Following an underwhelming 2022 season, in which they finished with a record of 13-42, the women are eager to get back on the field and compete again.

London and graduate student outfielder Amy Petrovich credit their upgraded offensive lineup as one of the keys to their success in their wins over Bellarmine and Binghamton.

"This past weekend, we did pretty well with manufacturing runs and banded together as a team when we were down," said Petrovich. "It was a great learning experience for us that we will definitely be able to grow from as the season goes on!"

Petrovich and junior infielder Jenna Mowad, both captains for the 2023 season, are looking to take their games to the next level this season. Last season, Mowad was awarded second team all Northeast Conference (NEC).

"I think we look pretty good especially for just starting out the season," said Mowad. "The chemistry and the team atmosphere is amazing and I think that those feelings will take us far. We have talent and drive to win, so I'm super excited to see where the rest of the season takes us."

However, Mowad does not want to just focus on her personal softball achievements, but rather focus on the team's goals.

"Most of our goals are correlated to the team goal which is to win and get back to the NEC tournament," said Mowad.

During the offseason, the women focused on improving one day at a time and competing at a high level as a team. They stressed the importance of good communication and upholding the high standard that they have set for themselves since day one.

"We really emphasized playing together as a team and worked out any kinks we may have," said Petrovich. "I am super excited to see our hard work hopefully pay off over spring break."

The team heads back down south to Boiling Springs, N.C. on March 3 for the Runnin' Bulldog Classic.

"This season isn't about any new techniques," said London. "It's about new mindsets and attitudes. We committed, as a team in the fall, to learning how to handle hard better, because desirable outcomes are not easy to achieve."

*Sacred Heart Athletics and Tyler Ciavarella contributed to this article.*

## A Weekend of All-Stars

BY BRYAN SMITH  
Co-Sports Editor

The NBA's annual All-Star Weekend took place in Salt Lake City, Utah on Feb. 17-19. Featuring a Celebrity All-Star game on Friday, a skills challenge, three-point contest and slam dunk contest on Saturday, and then the All-Star game on Sunday, these three days are a chance for fans to watch their favorite players from across the league participate in unique and fun activities.

However, in recent years and especially this year, fans have criticized the weekend, saying that it is getting boring and that the players aren't trying during the All-Star game itself. This year's version of the game ended with Team Giannis defeating Team LeBron 184-175.

"This was a glorified layup line," Celtics All-Star Jaylen Brown said to reporters postgame. "We've got to figure out how to make the game a little bit more competitive."

Michael Malone, head coach of the Denver Nuggets, who are in first place in the Western Conference and thus was the head coach of Team LeBron during the game, also was critical of the effort put forth by the players.

"It's an honor to be here. It's an honor to be a part of a great weekend with great players," Malone said to CBS Sports. "But that is the worst basketball game ever played."

It's not only the All-Star game that has seen a drop in excitement in recent years. The dunk contest, once considered the premier event of the weekend, has fallen short of expectations quite a few times over the last decade.

"In recent years, some fans and analysts have criticized the Dunk Contest for lacking star power and creativity, and some top players have chosen not to participate," Sacred Heart student Ryan Metellus said. "Additionally, the rise of social media and the ease with which fans can access highlights of dunks and other impressive plays has perhaps made the contest less of a must see event."

The dunk contest was won by Mac McClung, a guard in the Philadelphia 76ers organization who has only played in two career NBA games, according to NBA.com.

"McClung's victory in the dunk contest was certainly unexpected given that he was a relatively unknown player to many fans prior to the event," Metellus said.

The three-point contest, according to some critics, has become the marquee event of the whole weekend. Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard won the event, edging out Indiana Pacers guard Buddy Hield by one point, 26-25, in the final round.

"I think this was a goal of mine [to win] because as a shooter, anytime you come into a competition like this you want to win it," Lillard said to ESPN.

"I had done it two times before this, and I didn't take it seriously enough. As a shooter, I wanted to win at least one time before I was done playing, and that's why I took this one a little more seriously."

The increase in three-point shooting across the league could be a contributing factor to the rise in popularity of the event.

I think the increasing emphasis on three-point shooting in the modern NBA has contributed to the contest's popularity," Metellus said. "Many of the league's top players are prolific three point shooters, and the contest provides an opportunity for them to showcase their skills and compete against one another".

The NBA has some questions to answer moving forward as they look to find ways to improve the fan experience of the event and increase player effort. Next year's edition of the All-Star game will be in Indianapolis, with the All Star game to be played on Feb. 18, 2024.

*Tommy Mussio contributed to this article.*

# Editorial

## A Love Letter to the Martire Building

ROBERT FINIZIO

HEAD CONTENT EDITOR

My Dearest Martire Building,

Boy, we've had some great memories. It all started in CM-101, where I learned the basic fundamentals of media, and how important of a role it plays in our society right in your movie theater style viewing rooms (Extremely hard not to fall asleep in that chair).

Things got interesting quickly when I took Professor Z's podcast journalism class and digital editing with Professor Miranda. That was when I was introduced to your editing rooms. Oh how sweet your editing rooms truly are. Always warm and peaceful, and always available!

In your second floor, I learned how to coil wires in Professor PJ's sports broadcasting class right in the cubicle hallways.

I can now say with confidence that not only have I learned the proper way to coil, but I also realized it's one of my favorite parts of a live event broadcast. I now even find myself coiling my phone charger.

Einstein's Bagels. There may not be a better smell than that of coffee roasting from Einstein's before an early morning class. That Friday morning iced coffee and bagel before Professor Batista's studio production class was a true life saver! Thank you for always keeping me full and caffeinated.

And then there is Studio A, the memories it already holds! Whether it was running the Kellog's commercial in Professor Russo's CM-222 class, or getting to anchor on the 49th episode of the Pulse, Studio A is one of your best features.

But I think my favorite room of yours is right here in the Spectrum Office, where I am currently writing this letter. There is not a single place on campus that brings me more comfort and productivity than your Spectrum Office.

Thanks for (almost) always being open. Without you I wouldn't have been able to get those late night 1 a.m. editing sessions in, or finish up a critical film essay for Professor Gottlieb's History of Film class. You never let me down in the trying times of the semester.

My sweet Martire Building, thank you for always being there when it mattered most.

Yours truly,

Rob



- EDITOR IN CHIEF  
MIA SANSANELLI  
2023
- MANAGING EDITOR  
BRENDAN WILLIAMS  
2024
- HEAD CONTENT EDITOR  
ROBERT FINIZIO  
2023
- COPY EDITORS  
CODI LYNDERS  
2023
- MADISON BEEKMAN  
2025
- JULIANNA REZZA  
2023
- NEWS EDITOR  
ALEXANDRA BOTTO  
2023
- ASST. NEWS EDITOR  
MADISON BEEKMAN  
2025
- FEATURES EDITOR  
ISABEL HAGLUND  
2024
- ASST. FEATURES EDITOR  
CARISSA MUNOZ  
2023
- ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
EDITOR  
EDIJE FRANGU  
2023
- ASST. ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
EDITOR  
STEPH PATELLA  
2024
- CO-SPORTS EDITOR  
BRYAN SMITH  
2023
- CO-SPORTS EDITOR  
JENNA LETIZIA  
2023
- ASST. SPORTS EDITOR  
JAKE CARDINALE  
2024
- MANAGERS OF AUDREY'S CORNER  
JILL REIS  
2023
- KAILEY BLOUNT  
2023
- SPOTLIGHT EDITOR  
ALEJANDRO RAMOS  
2023
- PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
COLLIN MOURA  
2025
- ASST. PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
ISABELLA FABBO  
2024
- ASST. PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
SAMANTHA INGRAM  
2023
- PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER  
CODI LYNDERS  
2023
- ASST. PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER  
SAMANTHA MARANO  
2025
- WEB MANAGER  
STEPH PATELLA  
2024
- ASST. WEB MANAGER  
CARISSA MUNOZ  
2023
- AD SALES MANAGER  
NICHOLAS MEACHEN  
2024
- CIRCULATION MANAGER  
SAMANTHA MARANO  
2025
- FACULTY ADVISOR  
PROF. JOANNE KABAK

*The editorial page is an open forum. Editorials are the opinions of the individual editors and do not represent the opinions of the whole editorial board. Letters to the editor are encouraged and are due by Sunday at noon for consideration for each Wednesday's issue. All submissions are subject to editing for spelling, punctuation, and length.*

*Letters to the editor should not exceed 600 words and should be emailed to spectrum@sacredheart.edu. The Spectrum does not assume copyright for any published material. We are not responsible for the opinions of the writers voiced in this forum.*

April 26, 2023



### Know a student leader who is...



Dependable? Passionate?  
 Postitive? Creative?  
 Organized? Authentic?

## NOMINATE THEM FOR AN AWARD!

