Concordia University Irvine
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Concordia University Irvine

Beachy Homecoming at Dana Point

SARENA GRANT
CAMPUS LIFESTYLE

The ‘Lida’s a Beach!’ Homecoming dance, put on by LEAD Student Activities, will be held at the Dana Point Ocean Institute on Feb. 8 from 8-11 p.m. The venue is right on the beach, so you can see the ocean from the dance floor,” said Audrey Biesk, junior, LEAD Student Activities Coordinator. “Dana Point in general is such a beautiful area, and it’s fairly well known. The location is convenient and close, and the actual institute is really amazing.

Leading up to the dance is a spirit week, giving students a chance to show off their school pride. Yesterday was ‘Merica Monday. Today is Take Down TMC. Tuesday, tomorrow is What Not To Wear Wednesday, followed by Twinning Thursday, and Aloha Friday. Show off your outfits by posting photos on Instagram with hashtag CULifeFwdweek.

In regards to attire for the dance, the event is semi-formal. ‘It’s a beachy theme, so people can choose to incorporate that into their outfits however they wish,” Biesk said.

Eagle skates to success

DAITALYN LAURENCE
SPORTS EDITOR

Alexa Finzi, junior, started ice skating when she was five years old and has continued honing her skills for 15 years. Finzi has dedicated so much time to synchronized skating programs, has competed in both the Cup of Berlin and the French Cup twice. Synchronized skating has not earned itself a place in the Olympics just yet. However, there are rumors that the sport might make its Olympic debut soon. Until then, Finzi and her team will focus on Nationals, which will be occurring on Feb. 27.

During season, Finzi’s schedule consists of three main components: skating, sleeping, and going to school. Finzi practices 4-6 times a week when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. Ephesians 4:15-16.

Finzi emphasized how supportive her family was of her skating career. Finzi and her twin sister, Nicole, began their journeys as skaters together. The pair skated on the same team until high school, when Nicole decided to focus on school and her social life. However, Nicole continues to support her sister in everything she does. The two even Skype while Finzi is away for competitions.

Finzi not only has a supportive family off the ice but a support system on the ice as well. “I love my teammates. They’re like my family, my sisters,” said Finzi. She continuously emphasizes her love of skating. “Being on the ice relaxes me. It’s like a stress relaxer,” said Finzi.

Both Finzi sisters have been diagnosed with Retinitis Pigmentosa. This disease causes red cells in the eye to slowly start dying and impairs peripheral vision. “Being on a synch team, you really need to see the girls next to you,” said Finzi. “So eventually I won’t be able to compete.” However, Finzi continues to be positive about her career regardless of her handicaps.

Finzi will continue in her skating endeavors and strive to further her success. She will be competing on her team California Gold in the U.S. Synchronized Skating Nationals in Michigan from Feb 27-Mar 2.

Those who have attended Homecoming in the past can expect to see a few changes. In order to cut costs and make tickets more affordable, dinner no longer included. Twenty-five dollars can be a lot for some college students, Biesk said. Another benefit of not having dinner is that there is no longer a cap on attendance. In previous years, tickets quickly sold out because of the 300 person limit. This year, without a cap, students won’t have to worry about the dance selling out. Without the need to save time for dinner, the dance is now only three hours long.

“I wish they would have kept the dinner portion of the dance,” said Sarah Barrick, junior. “I went the last two years and really liked having the event catered.”

“I think it’s pretty significant that homecoming is held in the spring,” said Kathleen Ann Sagan, junior. LEAD Student Activities Coordinator. “It’s a cool way to honor the graduating seniors.”

Each year, students elect a Homecoming King and Queen, reserved only for seniors. Voting is taking place all this week, with the winners being announced on Friday in chapel.

“I’m really excited to see what this year’s event brings,” said Maryia Arts, junior. “It’s been a blast when I’ve gone in the past, and I look forward to having a nice night with friends.”

Tickets can be purchased today at lunch or all day tomorrow in the CSLD for $20 per person.

CAITLIN DAVENPORT
STAFF WRITER

Concordia’s expansive electronic book database

Last fall, Concordia began expanding its book database by introducing an electronic based system, giving students access to 112,000 electronic books.

Available through EBSCO, those interested in reading one of these electronic books have access through the library’s computers, as well as their own computers. The subscription to EBSCO grants students and faculty access to thousands of books electronically, in addition to what is available in the library.

To find the ebooks online, first visit the ‘research tools’ section of Concordia’s library website. From there, click on Academic ebooks, which will bring up the_th ebooks ebook search engine.

The range of subject material is varied, offering everything from literature to non-fiction. A handy feature available when using the ebooks is the ability to create all citations in different styles for use in bibliographies. The ebooks cannot be downloaded, and only 60 pages of a book can be printed at a time. Internet connection is required to access the books.

Unfortunately, not many students have taken advantage of this library feature yet. “We do point it out in our instruction sessions,” said Ramez Mikhail, Information Services Librarian. “We show them the ebooks, and it tends to fascinate people that we have this many books.”

The Library staff is continually informing students and faculty of the database through flyers and information sessions in the library.

Dr. Susan Bachman, Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences and Honors Program Director, had her Freshman Breakout INT 100 Honors students complete a research project using the ebooks. “I got started when I learned about our new ebooks at the faculty retreat from Carolina Barton, Director of Library Services. She told me about our new addition that included thousands of books,” said Bachman. “I wanted to integrate this with my Honors students as a new project.” Students were able to select any topic of preference but were required to complete the research using the non-fiction ebooks.

The opinion on ebooks, however, has been varied. Most of Bachman’s students claimed using the ebooks was too difficult and that they preferred using paper books. “It is nice having access to all the books, but I didn’t like that I couldn’t print them.”

I preferred reading the book on my Kindle,” said Kendall Davis, freshman. Other students, however, have enjoyed using the ebooks.

Although some professors like the ebooks, others prefer not to use them. “I’m old school, I’d rather use a hard copy,” said Bob Rosson, Professor of Theology.

To get more information on the ebooks, stop by the library, or visit http://www.cui.edu/library.

Eagle skates to success

Concordia’s expansive electronic book database

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:15-16
The other day, I got in a silly argument with some guys about who has it worse, guys or girls. It wasn't important and mostly the girls complained about their periods, but it's a serious problem. Many men don't realize the way women feel their looks were more important than your abilities, and personality traits; female role models are mainly remembered for being pretty. This ties in the media's representation of women and the sexist imperative that imposes the need to be beautiful and likeable. The most frustrating thing about being sick, though, is not the loss of the sense of appreciation (the most frustrating thing about being sick, though, is that I've had the flu-type-buglet that's been going around). The point is, you never know what's around the corner, so having health insurance at all, even with the discounted price that health insurance offers, will actually cost you more to stay healthy than ever. For example, if you get a nasty, lethal disease, you're going to have a hard time finding health insurance, it has never cost me less than $70 to say "hello" and check in with a doctor. This has often left me wondering, "What's the point in having health insurance at all?"

For the past week, I've gotten to know my bed very well, having not left my room in four days. The reason for this, before you go thinking I'm just pure idle, is that I've had the flu-type-buglet that's been going around. The point is, you never know what's around the corner, so having health insurance at all, even with the discounted price that health insurance offers, will actually cost you more to stay healthy than ever. For example, if you get a nasty, lethal disease, you're going to have a hard time finding health insurance, it has never cost me less than $70 to say "hello" and check in with a doctor. This has often left me wondering, "What's the point in having health insurance at all?"

One month of spring semester has already passed. Only 12 more weeks until summer vacation. Most people divide their years in this way—"work and vacations." This always seems a rather dubious dichotomy. My years divide into "work and travel," which in my life translates as "teaching and learning." Travel has become my education.

Traveling was never a time for night clubs and resting on the beach, but a time for forgetting decisions, fears, stories, hostels, rocky debates, late-night journaling, and expanding reading. Preparation for travel didn't involve guidebooks and hotel brochures, but novels, music downloads, art exhibits, history books, and restaurant visits to hale various aspects of the new cultures to be experienced. Travel was the richest milieu of education and the most liminal locale for learning.

Four summers ago Concordia students first inquired about me, the most intrepid of all, the one who constantly speculated about how that could distress my personal learning. I didn't want roles of instruction and leadership to threaten my personal growth. So far, I've learned:

1. Don't set limits to the number of jobs. Even after learning of the Kingdom of God being intimate in cultures, we've seen the Great Commission in action through a myriad of ministries, and we've heard Christ being worshipped in a spectrum of styles and languages. God wealthy to us to learn a body, and Christian community is where I've experienced most powerfully: Learning together, whether in a classroom in Irvine, talking with Peace Corps volunteers on a train across Zambia, training Nepalese teachers in a Himalayan valley, studying Pilates at a secret meeting in China, or selecting street boys to place in tepidly conversion to India. Our students came out through the post-monsoon humidity to various meetings run by the Friends of Teresa's Society of Charity. Some students decided to teach disabled children in Easterly, and some worked in Tanzania with disabled women, and others at Prom Dan or Kilgath with the sick and dying. Before our first day, I asked God to let me go where he should go to make sure the Concordia team leaders were evenly distributed. She looked up and re- moved the window to the trek we'd be making. "Go with your students to Kilgath, but don't go as a leader. Go as a learner."

Adam Lee
Assistant Professor of English

The opinions expressed in the Concordia Courier are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the administration, faculty, staff or student body of Concordia University. The views of the majority of the editorial staff.
February 5, 2013
CAMPUS LIFE

Eagles soar into intramural season

AUSTIN BURKHART
STAFF WRITER

On Tues., Jan. 22, the intramural basketball season began with students ready to get on the court and play, setting the tone for a safe and exciting season.

Intramurals are the most participated-in activity on campus. All students can play and no prior experience is needed. These activities often attract students who play sports in high school but felt unable to play at a collegiate level.

Because there were only two girls’ teams that participated in last year’s season, Intramural Coordinators Kelso and Austin Derryberry, juniors, were predominantly focused on involving more female players this year. Kelso and Derryberry used marketing techniques to grab the students’ attention and encourage more participation.

“We sent emails, set up posters, and had a basketball hoop outside the cafeteria during lunch,” said Kelso and Derryberry. “With five women’s teams and 16 men’s teams this season, both coordinators agree the turnout was far better than last year. However, both would like to see an even higher increase in girls’ teams in the future.”

Some girls said it was too competitive, but those were some of the girls who played intramural flag football,” said ASCUC President, Elyssa Sullivan, senior. “I know some of the girls wanted a tutorial to go over the rules, so that might help.”

Opening night, referees and players alike were excited to see what this season had in store. Third year intramural referee, Zach Oxendahl, junior, spoke from experience. “I hardly recognize half the players out there anymore, as it’s great to see new competitors on the court,” said Oxendahl. “It’s not going to be like last year where one team dominated everyone.”

Kelso and Derryberry encourage players to stay “level headed” towards other players and referees.

“We’re not professional referees, but I try to make it fair for both teams and when I make a call, I stand by it,” said Oxendahl.

The players were especially excited to kick off the season with positive attitudes and strategic game plans. “This is my first year playing intramural basketball. Our team is more focused on playing for fun,” said Sullivan. “I wasn’t at the first game but heard the girls all played with a good attitude, and that’s a great strength to have.”

Last season, Michael Annunziato, senior, and his team lost in the semifinals to the Scrubs, the team that went on to win the championship. “I want my team to be better at the end of the season, and to be able to play with the best, while having a blast playing and glorifying God in the process.”

Many of the men on the team not only love Coach McCmnn as a coach but also respect his coaching style. “He gives us a lot of freedom on the field and tells us to just play and good things will happen,” said Scott Jackson, junior, captain.

Many players agree that Coach McCmnn’s coaching technique is better than other coaches they have had in the past. “He is more comfortable and does not pressure us as much,” said Kelly McMnn, senior.

“He is not the kind of coach that thinks winning is everything; instead he wants us to play well and play together.” With one win under their belt, the team is reassured that hard work does pay off.

“This year is our year to show that we belong,” said Kelly McMnn.

Coach McMnn shared that strong leadership, good encouragement skills, and fewer negative influences will help maintain the success of his team.

Last Friday, the lacrosse team took on Chapman University but fell by a score of 15-6. Chapman was ranked #1, so the loss is considered a learning experience. Playing against ranked teams will help expose the team’s weaknesses that need to be fixed. “Last year was the coming out year, and this year is the showing out year,” said Coach Mcmnn.

If this team could be described in three words, they would be “gritty, exciting, and fast,” said Begum. These three words illustrate what the remainder of season will look like as the team works towards becoming National. Their next game is Sat., Feb. 9, at 1 p.m. against St. Mary’s College at Sage Hill High School in Newport Beach.

Sticking to the men

Back to the men’s basketball team. The men’s lacrosse team started the season 1-1, defeating UCLA 9-6 in their first game on Jan. 26. This season they will take on top teams of their conference to get one step closer to their end goal of becoming national champions.

The team has been preparing long and hard for this season so that they can compete with the best teams in the nation. “We started practicing in the fall by morning running from 6:30 a.m., and then an hour of weightlifting after practice,” said Destin Seguin, junior, captain. Although the team’s practice schedule ranked #1 last season, so the loss is considered a learning experience. Playing against ranked teams will help expose the team’s weaknesses that need to be fixed. “Last year was the coming out year, and this year is the showing out year,” said Coach Mcmnn.

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Adjustments for core peer tutoring?

MALAIA BIGHIRUMNI
STAFF WRITER

The Core Peer Tutoring program is making new changes to emphasize core tutoring available for students in the Core curriculum.

Despite Core Peer Tutoring being available for multiple semesters, it still isn’t being utilized enough. “We found through last semester that core peer tutoring sessions weren’t being as efficient as they could,” said Dr. Daniel van Voorhis, Co-Director of the Core Curriculum. “Peer tutors were not being used to their full potential.”

With a new semester under way, van Voorhis is making the changes necessary to resolve the issue.

“We need to hire more tutors and use much more money into the program, that will be done,” said van Voorhis.

Core curriculum professors are also doing whatever they can to assist student success in their class. Dr. Melinda Schullers, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Head Professor of Matematik Core Peer Tutoring, has already seen much improvement from her students going to tutoring sessions.

“We’ve implemented core small group tutoring with up to at most three people,” Schuller said. “More than half of the students who got A’s last semester went to core peer tutoring.”

Professors aren’t the only ones who see the benefit in Core Peer Tutoring. Beth Lonardelli, sophomore, praises the core peer tutoring for the help it gave her after going in for math help. “It was very helpful, and did nothing but boost my grade,” Lonardelli said.

Despite the advantages for students, some subjects still have not had much attendance. “Many students don’t go to the sessions because it affects their schedule, but if you need the help, take advantage of it,” said Lonardelli.

Van Voorhis wants the Core Curriculum to be “intellectually challenging but very doable.”

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With the professors doing as much as they can to have core tutoring emphasized, it is ultimately up to the students to actually go to the meetings Kristina Deusch, junior English Core Peer Tutor, acknowledged the shortage of students at her tutoring sessions. “It’s in the professors hands, but it’s the student’s decision,” said Deusch.

“Students who go to tutoring won’t regret it,” added Schuller.

For more details on core peer tutoring sessions, visit www.core.uc.edu/corelearningprogram/administrative/CoreTutoring or contact your Core curriculum professor.

Come to Concordia University Irvine’s first RADD event!

Thursday, February 7th
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Student Union Patio

Come be a part of the Concordia University Irvine RADD Crew! Students will promote this Designated Driver Reward Program by learning how to prevent impaired driving and keep their friends and fellow Eagles safe!

We want students to know that you can go out with your friends, have a great time, and still get home safely when you are responsible and plan ahead.

For more information on the RADD program, visit www.collegeisradd.org

If you are interested in getting involved on campus, please contact Margaret Gamboa, Health Promotion Specialist at the Wellness Center at margaret.gamboa@cui.edu or (949) 214–3108.

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The women's water polo team began the season with a rough start at the UCSD Winter Invite in Santa Barbara. However, despite the 2-6 start, the team remains positive.

New head coach John Wright was not upset about the losses. “It was pleasant, I thought we really did well,” said Wright. “Clearly there are some things we need to get better at, but that's fine.” The team agreed with their coach. Jamie Clark, senior, thought the games went well considering the team felt: “We kept up with a lot of the Division I teams that we played,” said Clark.

The team began the season with 24 players but is now left with 11. Although many players have dropped, the remainder of the team has maintained a very strong bond. Karen Gurnak, freshman, feels the Lady Eagles have become an even more dedicated group. The small number creates a struggle but does not stop the progress of the team.

A collective goal for the year is to stay together through adversity and to hold each other accountable. “We are so close, we can't take our anger out on each other,” said Clark. Coach Wright also believes a huge goal for this season is to improve and get better as a unit.

Significant challenges ahead for the Eagles, including a tough 31-game schedule. The team will face off against many big opponents such as USC, UCLA, Pacific, and Santa Clara. However, the most anticipated game among coaches and players is against rival Cal Baptist.

To prepare for these games, Wright has the team scrimmage against Concordia’s men’s water polo team and the boy’s water polo team from Irvine High School. Along with the scrimmages, they prepare different schemes offensively and defensively for each opponent they face. "We never know what to expect at practices," said Gurnak. Former water polo player Samantha Bollie, junior, is eager to see the success this season's team will bring. She knows how much work they have to put into to achieve the goals they set this year. Bollie encourages more people to come out and show support because "the atmosphere changes with a bigger crowd." The Eagles will have a long stretch of away games before returning to their home pool. Their next games are against the University of Redlands at the La Verne Mini Invite on Feb. 9 in La Verne, CA, at 10:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The teams next home game will be against Jona College at Irvine High School on March 14, so mark your calendars to support your Lady Eagles!

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The lineups for the all-star teams have now been selected from a combination of fan voting and coach’s selections. The votes for the all-star selections were quite predictable. The Eastern starting lineup is relatively small, with Kevin Garnett as the biggest of the five. Likely, none-time all-star Lebron James will play power forward, leaving Carmelo Anthony on the wing with Dwight Howard. Celtics point guard, Rajon Rondo, won the fan vote but will not make the team. The starting five will be Ray Allen for his recent ACL tear, which will keep him off the court until next season. Kyle Irving is the most likely replacement in the starting lineup. The Western Conference starters are even more predictable. Chris Paul, Kobe Bryant, Kevin Durant, Blake Griffin, and Dwight Howard, all of whom started in last seasons all-star game.

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Not easily replaced

CAMEISHA PATTON
STAFF WRITER

Women’s volleyball head coach Dan Fisher has completed his last season with Concordia. As Jan 16, Fisher has been announced as the new head girls’ volleyball coach at the University of Pittsburgh.

The last two seasons for the women’s volleyball program have been the most successful seasons in the program’s history. Under Fisher, the Eagles dominated with an outstanding record of 38-6 in conferences. 21-2 overall. Fisher has two GSAC Championship victories under his belt and one championship title. Fisher not only has the coaching experience but the playing experience needed to be the successful coach that he is today. Before becoming the top assistant coach at the University of Pacific, Fisher competed for nearly 10 years at high division levels.

“We wish Dan Fisher the best at the University of Pittsburg,” said Greg Dimesen, Associate Athletic Director. “Dan and his staff provided the program with two unforgettable seasons with one NAIA Championship and one NAIA runner-up finish. We wish him the best in his new endeavors.” Fisher's contribution has left an indelible impression on Concordia’s athletic program by displaying a deep respect for the game, the staff, the players, and the officials. “God has truly blessed me through my relationship with Dan,” said Teyvon Johnson, defensive specialist. “Coach Fisher is always there for his players giving their best in everything they did.”

Although Fisher will be greatly missed by faculty, staff and students, the Lady Eagles will miss him the most. “Coach Fisher cared about the ‘whole’ person. We did not just learn about volleyball, but we learned about life and having faith. We learned how to be the best person outside of the gym,” said NAIA All-American Brooke Marino, senior. Fisher has successfully made a positive impact on the team during his two seasons and has helped change the lives of many. “The new coach is going to have some pretty tough shoes to fill,” said former teammate Breanna Hurd. Everyone really felt that Dan has changed my life. He not only trained to develop us as players, but also as better people.”

Fisher expressed to ESPN News, on the athletic website, how grateful he is to have been a part of the Concordia family for the last two years. He has been “extremely blessed to work with a great group of coaches, staff, and administrative support team.” Fisher will go on to coach and spread his faith and integrity at the University of Pittsburgh and will always be remembered for his unselfish coaching style and confidence in his players and coaching staff.

The Athletic Department has begun the hiring process and hopes to have the new coach in place by April so that he or she is able to work with the returning players before the 25-week offseason ends. For more information on the progress of the search for Concordia’s ninth women’s volleyball coach, check www.cusports.com.
Concordia Choir fundsraiser for trip

JESSICA ISRAEL STAFF WRITER

This February, the Concordia Choir is planning multiple fundraising events to assist in their efforts to perform in the upcoming production of "The Wizard of Oz". The Choir is planning to visit six different Lutheran churches in the Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, areas. During their visit, they will be singing on a week-long tour of concerts. There are plans in the making for the choir to work with Chick fil-A in the Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, areas. They are planning to visit six different Lutheran churches to pay for their Spring Tour in the Northwest. They are also planning to visit six different Lutheran churches to pay for their Spring Tour in the Northwest of Vacaville.

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Students noodle their way around the world

KRISTINA RUGA
STAFF WRITER

On Thurs., Jan. 24, the International Student Services and Global Citizens Club hosted International Night in the Rho Programming Center. International Night was a free event for students to try different noodles from around the world and to get to know some of the international exchange students. “I want international students here at Concordia University to feel right at home and open their minds and be able to make new friends,” said Fei Gao, senior Global Citizens Club President.

There were six countries that were represented: Germany was represented by a traditional dish. China featured a Zhaoyangma dish, consisting of fried sauce noodles. Macaroni and cheese was the dish for the United States, while Japan was represented with yakisoba, a fried noodle and sauce. To represent Korea, there was Japchae, a noodle dish stir-fried in sesame oil. Lastly, there was a Santa Fe chicken pasta dish, which is a specialty in Italy. “My favorite dishes were the Japanese Yakisoba dish and the macaroni and cheese dish representing the United States,” said Anna Kawahtima, sophomore transfer student from Japan. “I came for the free food and wanted to see noodles from Japan.”

Spy vs. Reporter

EMILY GORSKI
EDITOR IN-CHIEF

On Tues., Jan. 29, the Richard Nixon Library and Museum hosted a Washington-style press conference, featuring two former higher-ups in the CIA, for the purpose of discussing what the agency has been doing to ensure the country’s safety while aiming for peace.

Before the conference began, all the participants were excused on guided tours throughout the museum and the grounds, with Nixon’s birthplace and Presidential helicopter being among the notable displays. The museum contains plenty of information on Nixon’s personal and political life, but it also has replicas of rooms in the White House and Nixon’s private home. Immediately following the tour and a brief introduction by the President of the Richard Nixon Foundation, the forum commenced. The two speakers were Andrew Liepman and Charles Allen, the first a principal Former Deputy Director at the National Counterterrorism Center, the latter a former Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis. Both spoke about not only their own extensive experiences, but also how the agency has evolved in the wake of the 9-11 terror attacks.

Allen started out by addressing a common misconception: “We’re not James Bond, but we certainly do some astonishing things,” he said. One of these “astonishing” accomplishments is how intelligence agencies, both foreign and domestic, have improved communications amongst one another in terms of sharing useful information and collaborating to halt terrorist plots. Al-Qaeda exploited this disconnect in 2001, but immediately after, personnel worked endlessly to rectify the problem. The holidays meant nothing because we were trying to keep the country safe,” said Allen, speaking about life following Sept. 11. All the hard work has paid off, because there has not been a successful attack on U.S. soil since those on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Besides preventing terrorist attacks, the agency is perpetually trying to improve technological security, attempting to stay a step or two ahead of the enemy. Some of the biggest government agencies, such as the CIA, FBI, and NSA, are collectively working to build a “community cloud” (think iCloud) that will allow them to share data more easily and efficiently. Though there exists a risk with this type of sharing, Liepman maintained that the number one threat to national security is not technology, but rather human beings.

They can also be our country’s most valuable assets. “Our greatest successes occurred when we were inside the deepest secrets of our enemies,” noted Allen. Local intelligence experts the best knowledge about potential threats. Field agents worldwide assess the likelihood of danger and report back to their agencies. Officials then issue alerts if the combined knowledge indicates a high enough level of threat. “What you see is not the destination but we can’t eliminate it,” said Liepman. Instead, they try their best to protect this country while also preserving the civil liberties of the people.

An underlying theme of the talk was encouragement to join the CIA if at all interested. “It is an amazing adventure,” said Liepman, especially for those who enjoy puzzles, telling stories, and considering the world in new ways.

The Richard Nixon Foundation often hosts lectures similar to this one or puts on events on its premises. To view upcoming events, visit their website at http://nixonfoundation.org/.

Mission trips opportunities

JASON DOUTHIT
STAFF WRITER

This summer, Concordia will be sending teams of students to several countries to learn about other cultures and to perform service projects.

Depending on the location, applicants, at least two teams of graduated seniors will be traveling to New York City. One of the senior teams will move on to run in the UK, Ireland, and Berlin during 2014 as well. For more information on the various events at the International Center for the Arts, visit the center’s website at http://www.sca.org/home/real Fist.aspx.

The National Theatre of Great Britain brought War Horse ‘gallops’ into Orange-County

ALEXANDRA CASTELLANDOS
STAFF WRITER

The National Theatre of Great Britain brought “War Horse” to the Segerstrom Center for the Arts. The production of War Horse is based on the novel by author Michael Morpurgo and adapted by British Tony Award winner, playwright, and writer, Nick Stafford.

War Horse is about a 15-year-old boy named Albert who sets out to rescue his horse, after he has been sold to the English cavalry during the First World War. “I thought the overall storyline was amazing and I really enjoyed how moving the ending was,” said Brittany Farmer, junior at Brea University.

War Horse, a two hour and thirty seven minute show, garnered its last performance in Costa Mesa this past Sun., Feb. 3. Carol Light and her son Jackson, residents of Newport Beach who are Segerstrom regulars, were mostly looking forward to seeing the production because it wasn’t a musical but a drama. “A few of my friends have seen it and have said that the horse is cool looking,” said Jackson Light. “A few of my friends have seen it and have said that the horse is cool looking,” said Jackson Light. “A few of my friends have seen it and have said that the horse is cool looking,” said Jackson Light.

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“My favorite dishes were the Japanese Yakisoba dish and the macaroni and cheese dish representing the United States,” said Anna Kawahtima, sophomore transfer student from Japan. “I came for the free food and wanted to see noodles from Japan.”

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Not to be confused with local slugger Albert Pujols, PUJOL is a band from Nashville, Tennessee, formed by Daniel Pujol. “United States of Being” is the group’s debut album and is filled with fast-paced songs, laid back lyrics, and a vocalist who isn’t your conventional “great singer”; in fact, he pretty much just shouts the words to the songs. That’s what makes them great. While his voice might not be the best, you can hear the passion and electricity that matches so well with this style of music. PUJOL is one of the great rising bands on the surfer/garage rock side of the indie world. With only EP’s in their past, this debut album meets the expectations one would have after hearing their earlier stuff.

My personal favorite track on the album is “Dark Knight in Shining Armor”, which is exactly what it sounds like—a song about Batman. This album is a great beach day album in my opinion, as it gives off the vibes of just hanging around with friends and not really doing anything. It’s been playing in my car for a little over a week now, and it’s a blast to sing along to at the top of my lungs as I drive around town. If you’re into any sort of punk or fast-paced rock music, I would definitely recommend United States of Being by PUJOL.

Special thanks to Professor Fluegge and Dr. Soper for teaching us that theology and science can work together.

BY HOPE HONSELICHER

Tuck’s Tune
United States of Being by PUJOL

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Warm Bodies: Cool Movie

NICOLAS TOWNS STAFF WRITER

Let me be clear, I hate when Hollywood makes monster movies into romances. The Twilight saga was like being in a dream with Freddy Krueger, and no matter what I did to wake up, more nightmares just kept on coming. Why? Because I am a movie lover who enjoys good and complete storylines. Monster movies are meant to have a few basic rules: vampires are cursed torsos with no souls, and they definitely turn to ashes in the sun (unless your name is Blade), not glow. Werewolves ought to be avoided at night because they turn into mindless eating machines, and zombies are the living dead reborn only motivated in life in all hell and spread their disease. So a movie about zombies coming back to life and falling in love sounded like a terrible idea. But then I watched Warm Bodies.

Warm Bodies is the new monster flick about a zombie named "R" who slowly starts becoming human, especially after meeting a person named "Julie." Just writing that sentence makes the movie lover in me cringe because of how stupid and anti-zombie-movie that sounds... Alas! I watched a few reviews of "The Walking Dead" and then brooked the premiere of Warm Bodies. I am so happy I did.

The first thing Warm Bodies did right was understand itself. It wasn't trying to become the next Teen Choice Award disaster that Twilight was (no offense to my 12-year-olds). Warm Bodies had a silly storyline and thus accepted being a silly movie. Much in the same way that Zombieland embraced the comedy perspective, Warm Bodies embraced its own silliness.

From the film's first scene until its last, the director clearly felt that it was not going to take itself too seriously and invited the audience to just enjoy the light-hearted enjoyment of the film. This redemmed the film because it never tried to justify itself. However, by embracing its own wackiness, the film actually delivered a rather sweet sub-narrative, which was romantic. Oh the irony!

Hunred was used masterfully throughout the film. Whenever things started feeling too dramatic, the writers added in well-placed jokes and laugh-out-loud moments. The acting was good, the script was great and the casting for each character seemed natural. When the movie's credits began to roll, I had to literally look up and say, "That was actually a good movie..."

While this is not going to go down as one of the best movies ever, it never did anything wrong. It was good enough that it had great moments, but because it avoided bad moments. The pace of the movie was quick and enjoyable. It didn't waste time on dumb plots, and every character's action was understandable and realistic. Every scene seemed to add something to the greater story, and I never felt bored. It even managed to add in real zombies to counter the fact that the movie was about zombies.

If you are looking for some good old fashion entertainment, Warm Bodies is perfect. There are no big twists, no huge dramatic moments, no crazy evil villains, nor any political/religious/scientific questions asking the audience to contemplate the meaning of life, love, liberty, or the pursuit of team Edward or Jacob. Instead, this is a simple film and delivers nothing more than it promised: a silly movie with a semi-serious romantic vibe. Warm Bodies is just a cool movie.

Welcome to the Pita Jungle

MAGGIE DARBY ARTS AND REVIEWS EDITOR

Hi, my name is Maggie Darby and I love French fries. Okay, now that I got that off my chest, we can talk food. My daily diet consists of French fries, sausage chicken nuggets, and macaroni mac-n-cheese. Occasionally I'll go for a burger if I'm feeling really exotic, but that's about it.

My friend ordered the Shawarma hot pita simultaneously with a green salad. The pita came first and was packed with rice, beans, lettuce, tomato, and a special sauce, it was a delicious 600 calories spent. The two meals, appetizer, and fresh squeezed lemonade with a hint of guava totaled a mere $25, which I felt was worth the gas.

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