INSIDE THE NEWS

ON CAMPUS
New Learning Commons, Page 2

ARTS
Fall Festival of Hymns, Page 7

SPORTS
Men's Water Polo aims high, Page 5

LOCAL/GLOBAL
D23 Expo, Page 8

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Live training and safety seminar provides valuable skills

CRISTIAN NUNEZ
STAFF WRITER

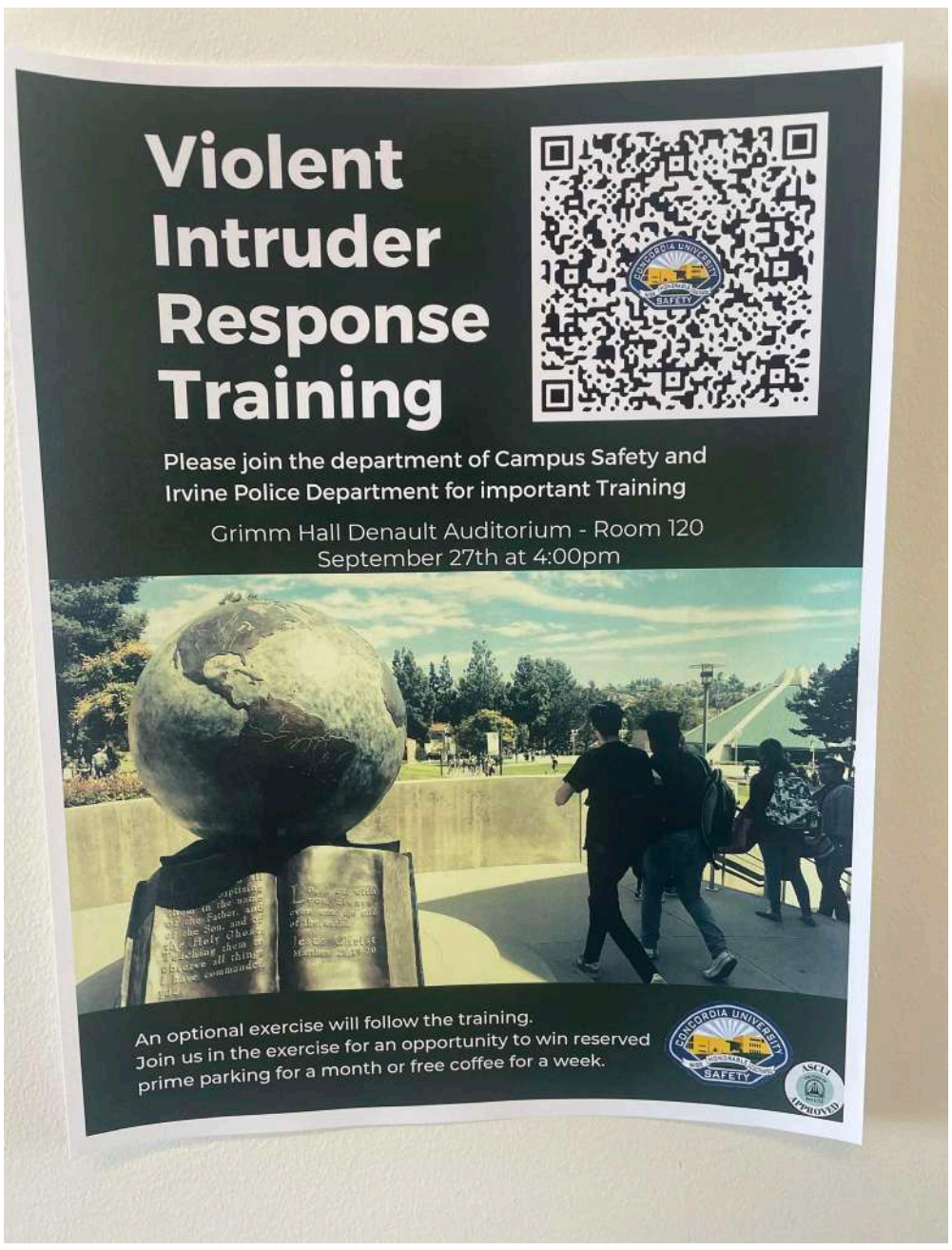
Mark those calendars and standby, Concordia's violent intruder presentation and training is back in action. This information-rich seminar, hosted by both Campus Safety and Irvine Police Department, offers insightful training on how to keep yourself safe along with those around you. This event will take place on Tues., Sept. 27 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Denault Hall.

Raul Morales, Director of Campus Safety, said, "The violent intruder response training is something we offer yearly, in some shape or form. We'd like to offer it through a live presentation and live training." Students and staff will get the opportunity to learn the basics and develop skills alongside active-duty safety and law enforcement professionals.

Morales added, "The Irvine Police Department has a school-based risk assessment and response team, who are really good at presenting this information. The violent intruder response is offered as long as we request it."

Taking advantage of this opportunity can teach skills through a very immersive experience. Steven Rodriguez, the Associate Director of Campus Safety, said, "It's going to be a different presentation this time. Last year was a case study, whereas this year will be more action and response based."

The seminar itself will consist of different types of teaching. Morales commented, "The actual presentation will probably only be 45 minutes, break for 10 minutes, then we'll set up in the hallway with the police and develop a scenario. They'll instruct you on what to do and move on from there." This event will feature hands-on training meant to prep participants on acting thoughtfully under pressure. Morales said, "It's really good because it's a way of getting this information about how to recognize a violent intruder or a situation that might occur or about to occur."



PICTURED ABOVE: *Poster for the upcoming Violent Intruder Response Training- Photo courtesy of: Cristian Nunes*

"What this presentation does is that it develops leaders, who get this training and get this information," Morales said, "This training is good for everywhere, not just on campus." Upon successful completion, there is a better chance that attendees will respond for their individual safety and possibly help those around them as well. Rodriguez said, "Irvine is safe, but not invincible." Having the skills of leadership within danger and spatial awareness is recommended even within one of the safest cities in the nation.

Rodriguez encourages would-be attendees to RSVP using the QR code on the posters that will be posted around campus or by clicking the link on the email sent to all the students. However, "If people just show up, that's totally cool, we're fine with that," Rodriguez added. For those who are interested in signing up, keep a look out for the emails and posters!

Attending this seminar can offer beneficial teachings and even give a glimpse into what Concordia's Campus Safety team drills on and prepares for. Morales mentioned, "During the summer, Campus Safety trains on responding and recognizing something dangerous that might be happening. We practice with dispatch and the officers and initiate a lockdown on Titan, as quickly as possible." Observing these drills and performing them in-person can help participants understand the importance for everyone's safety. Morales said, "It's very worthwhile, I hope a lot of people show up." Make sure to secure that reservation for this upcoming seminar, hosted by both Irvine's and Concordia's finest.

For more information on the violent intruder presentation, visit https://www.cui.edu/campus-safety/programs.

A Concordia dispatch from Cambridge: American students experience the UK in mourning

MADISON ZUNIGA
STAFF WRITER

The United Kingdom observed a national day of mourning on Mon., Sept. 19. Shops, restaurants and businesses all shut down in remembrance of the late Queen Elizabeth II, who passed away on Sept. 8, 2022.

Ten students from Concordia University Irvine, this author included, have joined the British populace in mourning the queen's death. The student group is participating in the semester-long study abroad program offered by Concordia in the historical university town of Cambridge, England. The start of the fall term was delayed due to the day of mourning, so rather than begin classes Monday morning, the group watched the queen's funeral procession and service live on television.

"It really is a once in a lifetime event. It's insane to see how much it affects the country, because nothing like this could happen in any other context. The queen has been alive for so long, she's lived through it all, and now they're laying her to rest. It's incredible that the whole country has shut down for this." said Sarah Decker, sophomore.

The queen's death has impacted the Cambridge study-abroad experience from the start. On the morning of Thurs., Sept. 8, several Concordia students prepared to depart from the Los Angeles International Airport to Heathrow Airport in London. The news of the queen's death was released around 10:30 a.m. in Pacific Standard Time. "It's crazy that we got to go through this. [The queen died] on the day we went to Cambridge, to England. The timing is insane," said Ariel Spilman, sophomore. She commented on how sudden it felt, and how no one seemed to expect it. "It's exciting because we get to experience and be a part of such a historic moment."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

A letter from ASCUI: Senate election results

LILY FRERICHS

ASCUI SECRETARY

Hey Concordia!

Since we last chatted Senate elections have come and gone so I'd love to introduce you to our new board and share their goals for this upcoming year. Thank you to everyone who voted and exercised their right to democracy. The team is really excited for this upcoming year and all of

the changes we're going to implement for the student body. I encourage getting to know your committee representatives and being vocal in sharing your feedback, thoughts and opinions with them!

Our first committee is made up of Gracie Thom and Thomas Bieker who represent the freshmen living in Rho. Both representatives are freshman this year with Gracie hailing from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Thomas from Newport Beach. Gracie is eager to help make decisions for and

with the student body. Thomas is looking forward to collecting honest feedback from students about Concordia and meeting their needs. Sigma is the next committee with representatives David Sanchez and Emma Agronovitz. David is a sophomore from Huntington Beach who is looking forward to helping expand student clubs and organizations while creating a campus culture where each student feels heard and represented. Emma is a freshman this year from Prescott, Arizona and is aiming to properly communicate the ideas and needs of CUI students while making the school a safe and exciting environment for all.

Representing the Upper Quads is Destiny Dekker who is a senior this year from Norco. Destiny wants to improve the overall dorm life and bond students through events and activities. From the Lower Quads is Donny Lucker who is also a senior but is a local from Laguna Niguel! Donny is looking to improve student life and the campus in any way he can to create a CUI that he is extremely proud to be a part of.

Last but certainly not least is our Commuter committee made up of Christian Oviedo, Andrew Gonzalez Rodriguez and Emma Magnuson. Christian is a senior and local from Irvine who is looking to cultivate positive change for CUI's future that will evolve for years to come. Andrew is from Buena Park and his goals this year include guiding others in the right direction and build a better community at CUI. Finally, Emma is a junior this year from Yorba Linda who is aiming to get commuters more involved on campus by connecting with others to learn about their opinions on the school.

Congrats again to our newly elected team and a huge thank you to all who ran and voted. Our meetings are open and held on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11 a.m. in Grimm Hall room 118. Feel free to stop in for a quick hello or to share your feedback with the team.

If you'd like to get involved with student government in the future, Senate elections will happen next fall and ASCUI executive board applications will open at the beginning of next semester.

Until next time Concordia!

Your ASCUI Secretary,

Lily Frerichs

Tons of resources, one location: Check out the Learning Commons

LEONARD MEMON

ARTS & REVIEWS EDITOR

The Learning Commons, which is located on the first floor of the Schroeder Library, is a place where students can easily navigate the numerous resources that are available to them.

Learning Commons resources include the Welcome Center, Writing Studio, academic advising, career development, academic coaching, the Unity Center and disability services.

Mariah Lucas, Director of Career Development and Vocation said, "It is in a student's best interest to visit the Career Center because the Career Center is more than just an office that can help with finding an on-campus job. Career coaching and preparation are tailored to each student's interests and needs." She added, "Our staff will meet students where they are at and help students discover what their next step is."

English Professor Kristen Schmidt, who also serves as Director of the Writing Studio, encouraged students to visit the Writing Studio for insightful conversations at any stage of their writing process. Schmidt said, "Writers need readers to know if they are communicating clearly -- and it's best to get that feedback before it lands on the desk of a professor or an employer! Writing consultants don't assign papers and we won't grade them -- rather, we provide idea-rich conversations about writing that will move it forward."

The Writing Studio also focuses on the writer themselves. According to Kirstie Skogerboe, Assistant Director of the Writing Studio and academic coaching, some of the questions that writers should ask themselves are: What's hard to understand? Which arguments are strongest? What sounds awkward? What sounds beautiful? What's the purpose of this sentence? "Talking through questions like these makes a writer think not just about the paper, but about the art of putting words together to make meaning," Skogerboe said.

Laura Courvoisier, Associate Dean of Student Development, said, "There are a variety of great reasons to visit an academic advisor, but the top reason tends to be class schedules. This can include adding or dropping classes, or planning for classes for the upcoming semester. All students need to meet with their academic advisor during advising season to review their plans for classes for the upcoming semester and receive an alternate pin which is required to be able to register for classes."

Resources like career development, academic advising, and the Writing Studio are easily accessible to students seeking academic help. Christiana Patton, a Student Success Center Student Worker who worked in the previous academic advising center said, "The advising office is now in a better, more convenient location where it is surrounded by all things student-focused. I can easily guide students to the student services they are looking for such as the library, Writing Studio, printers and tutoring services."

Lucas noted, "The Learning Commons has made the Career Center more accessible to students. Being closely connected with academic advising, Disability Access Services, academic coaching and the Unity Center allows me to serve students efficiently and be able to quickly refer them to other resources that will aid in their success."

Schmidt remarked, "The Writing Studio and Tutoring Services are located in one large space on the top floor of the Schroeder Library and Learning Commons. That makes those resources easy to find and accessible to both resident and commuter students, as well as faculty and staff."

Courvoisier also found that, "On a personal level, I love seeing students more often than we did in our old building. Now I get to run into them and say hi when they are studying or hanging out in the Learning Commons."

The new Learning Commons is also more spacious. Patton said, "The space is so much bigger and more inclusive than it was before." She added, "I also really like how bright and open the advising office and commons are now."

Skogerboe added, "Our new space also has a wall of windows overlooking the jacaranda trees on the Alumni Plaza; I think exposure to natural beauty can help students feel more at ease and enjoy being in the space. That's true for me, at least!"

Visit the Learning Commons to meet with students and staff who are eager to aid you on your academic journey!

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Fourth annual CONCORDIA *serves* is next week

MARI MALIG
STAFF WRITER

PICTURED ABOVE: *Concordia Students ready to board the bus and serve their community- Photo courtesy of: cuigoldeneagles.edu*

On Tues., Sept. 27, all classes will be canceled for CONCORDIA serves day so Concordia students, faculty and staff can serve their community at multiple locations.

Amy Bramson, the Executive Assistant for University Advancement, said, "Bil Hood, Sr. Director of External Relations, and I have been working since early summer to secure service opportunities with the 20 or so community partners."

Service events include volunteering in the kitchen with the Orange County Rescue Mission, preparing help bags for the homeless with Charity on Wheels and distributing food to families in need with Mariners Church.

There are even service opportunities on campus such as helping out at Heritage Garden, calling shut-ins at the Phone-A-Thon and producing Braille materials alongside the Lutheran Braille Workers. Student-athletes will be able to serve alongside their teams, and all students are encouraged to participate.

With the various service opportunities, Bramson said, "CONCORDIA serves is a great day for the entire campus - students, faculty and staff - to be the hands and feet of our Lord and to shine His light in a variety of locations in our city and beyond."

Emma Johnson, a junior and Women's Ministry Coordinator, has been working closely with Bramson and Hood to promote CONCORDIA serves "through tabling outside the Student Union and promoting it at other events such as weekly chapel and Night of Hope."

Johnson said that her favorite memory of past CONCORDIA serves days was working in Heritage Garden. Johnson said, "I was a staff member for the garden at the time and we unexpectedly had a whole sports team show up. It ended up being a very productive day with lots of bonding and joking around while we served in the garden. At the end of the day we were able to see how much work was accomplished and how much more beautiful we made the garden together."

Johnson added, "I'm looking forward to witnessing the gospel in people through service. I think Serves day is a really great opportunity for Concordia students to bless their community and show Christ-like love to their neighbors." She encourages students to participate in CONCORDIA serves "because it's a great way to detach from the stress of student life. It's a time to be in fellowship with one another working towards a goal that is greater than ourselves. It replaces the focus from ourselves and our worries to the people around us and how we can help them in our vocations."

Bramson also encourages students to serve and said, "It's a great day to enjoy a break from class, spend some time with friends in service, and of course, get a free t-shirt and free lunch!" Every participant will receive a free CONCORDIA serves t-shirt, and after a morning of serving the community, students can visit the cafeteria for a free lunch and enjoy some time eating with their Concordia family.

For more information on CONCORDIA serves, and to sign up for an opportunity to serve, visit https://www.cui.edu/aboutcui/community/serving/concordia-serves.

Let's go clubbing! *With Jenna Hoffman*

JENNA HOFFMAN
CAMPUS EDITOR

CUI Bono, pronounced "kwee boe know," is a club that develops well-rounded and educated students through meaningful discussions and relationships with professors.

CUI Bono in Latin translates to the question, "Who stands to benefit?"

Dr. Daniel Deen, Associate Professor of Philosophy, who is the faculty advisor for the club, said, "The goal of CUI Bono is to provide a forum where students and professors can come together to build relationships centered on the great questions of the liberal arts." CUI Bono is a forum where professors become students as they explore questions and topics of interest deeply. Deen said, "There is an element of iron sharpening iron as ideas are made public and debated, questioned, and refined in real-time."

Dr. CJ Armstrong, Professor of History and a founding member of CUI Bono, said that CUI Bono gives students the opportunity to get more out of their four years of education. This could be by, with the help of professors, "exploring what is good, beautiful and true." Armstrong said that students have likened CUI Bono to an "academic community" where students are able to find friends in other students and professors. Armstrong said that is exactly what he hopes students get out of CUI Bono, "a friend."

Communication Studies Professor David Schulz is an "advocate for and participant with the CUI Bono cast and crew." He said, "Students get what they put into their CUI Bono engagement." This includes "fellowship with faculty outside the traditional classroom, engagement with fascinating speakers, free food and free retreats."

CUI Bono has some great things planned for this year with the theme of truth in mind. Deen said, "We kicked the year off with a wonderful conversation with last year's CUI Bono Professor of the Year, Carolyn Shiery. She presented an intriguing set of notes and personal experiences regarding the importance of truth as it plays out in the business world."

CUI Bono hosts monthly lectures from professors where students can join and gain a better understanding of the topic at hand.

Deen also added that there will be a "retreat at Cedar Lake Camp in Big Bear for the weekend of Oct. 7 though 9." Deen said, "This is always a big hit with students as they get to spend a whole weekend in the mountains with faculty members discussing various topics of interest."

Deen hopes that in joining CUI Bono, students "gain a sense of how the life of the mind intersects with 'real' life." He said, "The goal is to cultivate intellectual humility, courage and curiosity in both faculty and students; but, not as a purely intellectual endeavor, rather as character traits that help with our public and private life as we struggle with the question of 'who stands to benefit.'"

If you are interested in participating in thought-provoking conversation and being a part of an academic community, join CUI Bono. If you have any questions about the club, contact Dr. Daniel Deen, at daniel.deen@cui.edu. Also, make sure to check out their podcast which you can find here https://www.cui.edu/studentlife/student-leadership/clubs-and-organizations/cui-bono/podcast

The Hunt to host the first Prey Day of the year

DELAINIE DELGADO

STAFF WRITER

Mark your calendars for Fri., Sept. 30 because it is the first Prey Day of the year where students will have the opportunity to win Hunt points for their team by wearing their Hunt shirt and participating in the first ever Lip Sync Battle followed by Silent Disco.

Prey Days take place once a month and are school wide spirit days where the students' main goal is to earn points for their team. "Everyone wears their housing areas' respective shirts [white for Quads, green for Rho, yellow for Sigma and black for commuters]," said junior and Hunt Coordinator Mason Dalbeck. "They check in at a table outside the cafeteria during lunch and every person wearing a shirt that checks in is a point for their team," Dalbeck continued.

Later that night there is an event hosted by The Hunt Committee where students can compete to win as many Hunt points as possible. Last month, Field Day brought students together for a fun night of games and competition. This month, The Hunt Committee will be hosting the first ever Lip Sync Battle.

"Lip Sync is a brand new event to CUI! Students will join with their friends to create a Lip Sync performance to their favorite song! Students will compete on a stage, there will be judges, and the winning team wins gift cards, championship shirts and Hunt points," said Associate Director of Residence Life and School Spirit Alexis Borland. Borland also mentioned that students can look forward to "amazing performances, a fun silent disco dance and food!"

Senior and Hunt Coordinator Juliann Johnson encourages all students to attend to "see all of their friends perform in the Lip Sync Battle, listen to lots of fun music and they will also see who gets crowned Lip Sync Champs."

ASCUI, The Hunt Committee, and the men's lacrosse team are just a few of the groups that have already signed up to perform. If you have not yet signed up, today is your last chance.

Visit @cui_thehunt on Instagram and click the link in their bio to sign up!

PICTURED ABOVE: *Students Hold Hunt T-Shirts*
Photo courtesy of: cuigoldeneagles.com

Your Prey Day Checklist!

- Participate on Fri., Sept. 30
- Wear your Hunt shirt
- Check in at the table in front of the Student Union
- Attend the Lip Sync Battle and Silent Disco

To study abroad or to not study abroad, that is the question

WYATT BURRIS

STAFF WRITER

The opportunity to experience new cultures and people is there for the taking for Concordia students. Prepare and know what is needed before the deadlines for Study Abroad in the 2023 fall semester.

Former student, Ariel Castagna, is quoted in the study abroad student testimonials tab of the website saying, "When you spend some time out of your comfort zone, you're going to realize just how many things in your life you can do without (my car, my cellphone and a private bathroom were the three biggest for me). I'm more independent than I've ever been before, and, at the same time, I've never been more appreciative of having my family and friends nearby." Experiences abroad can be more than just a fun semester in another country but can also be experiences that help a person grow in adulthood.

With all this excitement to go abroad the next question is where? That is completely up to the student and what they want to study with many different countries or U.S. territories to choose from. Some countries and territories even have multiple different university options through the Concordia umbrella.

Passports and visas are the first stop after choosing a country in the process of going abroad. Passports are the proof of citizenship to a country and allow for international travel. Visas are a stamp of approval for someone to stay in a country for a set period of time. As stated on the Concordia website, "It is ultimately your responsibility to determine if you need a visa for your study abroad program destination. Start the process by contacting the foreign government's embassy or consulate in your home country."

Remember traveling abroad is more than just going to a new place. Students should remember to respect the culture they are going to embrace for a semester. The importance of students researching the country beforehand can not be overlooked. Cost is also something that needs to be considered as cost differs from place to place.

Student academic advisors are great resources to help figure out credits and what classes to take and even where to go with what you want to accomplish academically while away.

Other great on campus resources include the Moon International Center and Faith McKinney Director of Study Abroad (faith.mckinney@cui.edu.)

Of course, all of this can only be done if you are eligible. Students have to be in good academic status and not on academic probation. Students also have to be a sophomore, junior or senior in their grad plan academic status. Transfer students have to spend at least one semester at Concordia before studying abroad.

Find more information on qualifying to study abroad and credit available on the Study Abroad section of the Concordia website: https://www.cui.edu/academicprograms/programs-abroad/study-abroad/general-information

Then grab your luggage and let's GO!

A look at Unity Week 2022

ROSS CORBO

STAFF WRITER

Unity Week was held on campus from Sept. 12 to 16 and consisted of events with the goal of bringing the campus community together.

The week showcased how barriers break when students from different backgrounds all find common ground. The events of the week helped showcase unique cultures and shared information about different cultures.

Senior Kai Parham, an Acting and Directing Major said, "In a situation like this I think it was really good and impactful on getting people in a togetherness feeling." Parham continued, "I think with us being a small campus athletics are a huge deal, if you can get athletics to be involved in these things, that's a majority of the population here at Concordia. So getting more involvement from all of the athletics honestly it just creates a better environment."

"I think these things are really important for building campus morale in general," Parham said, adding, "I think involvement from anybody on both ends is great for campus morale, going to events, planning events and all that stuff."

Resident assistant Harrison Schmidt said, "The attendance at the [Quad's Quizzes] event was pretty good," though, he added, "It would have been nice to see more people that weren't involved in student leadership." Schmidt continued, "I feel any time the students get together it builds community. I think Unity Week does a good job because it caters to people of all backgrounds in hopes of bringing everyone together."

Unity Week is an event held by Concordia once a semester, with an aim to bring everyone together and educate those on all the amazing cultures where everyone can appreciate the differences among all, regardless of everyone's respective differences. For those interested, be sure to check the MYCUI app and be part of the next Unity Week.

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Men's water polo coach hopes for top four

JANIE HOBBS

STAFF WRITER

Men's water polo secured their first win of the season against Occidental College in Redlands last weekend on Sept. 11. "A couple of key factors in our Sunday win against Occidental were the patient ball movement and zone defense," said senior Jeff Runyan, who scored six of their 12 goals and is only twenty goals away from holding the school record. "That was certainly one of the better games we had ever played offensively." The senior also credits sophomore Jacob Stuart, who scored a career-high of five goals during the matchup, and junior goalie Tanner Powell, who accumulated 16 saves against the Tigers.

After a tough loss against #13 UCSD, the Golden Eagles faced Biola and CBU yesterday, Sept. 22, with Biola being a crucial conference game for them later in the season. The team is also preparing for a tournament in Claremont where they have another chance to take down Westcliff, who they were five goals shy of at the Triton Invitational earlier this month. "Those difficult opponents really help us learn where our weaknesses are," Runyan said, "All these games are a way to show us how to better prepare for our conference games." The Golden Eagles hope to collect a few more wins before their conference season picks up.

Entering his eighth year as head coach, Dreason Barry prepares his team for conference with tough games early on. "To execute something when it matters, there needs to be automatic recognition of the situation," said Barry.

"We have a lot more depth than we did last year" - Head coach Dreason Barry

The team has big competition coming up as they match up against #9 Pepperdine and #7 Long Beach State on Sat., Oct. 1, great opponents to challenge them as they prepare for the rest of their season. Barry is aiming for top four in their conference this season with "great upperclassmen leadership" and some new young additions to his roster.

PICTURED ABOVE: *Gold Eagles gain their first win*
Photo courtesy of: cuigoldeneagles.com

"We have many freshmen that are having a significant impact right off the bat," said Runyan, "The best thing I can do as an older guy on the team is to motivate and empower my teammates to play to their full potential." He described the team as "incredibly close" along with Stuart who said "in and out of the water, I know these guys have my back and I have theirs." This camaraderie elevates their gameplay as they can trust and support each other through more difficult matchups. "The score only matters at the final whistle," freshman Leo Erickson said, "Anything before that isn't guaranteed." The men are keeping their focus on conference, building off each game to identify their weaknesses and capitalize on their strengths.

Men's water polo plays at home on Wed., Oct. 12 against Westcliff at 1:30 p.m. You can find full details about their schedule at cuigoldeneagles.com.

Men's cross country keeps the momentum going in UC Riverside Invitational

BRETT LUX

STAFF WRITER

After getting first of six at the Coyote Challenge meet, the Concordia cross country team kept the momentum going for the UC Riverside Invitational on Sat., Sept. 17.

Instead of just six schools competing, this competition had a staggering thirty schools. Racing against not just Concordia's conference schools, but Division 1 schools, the cross country team knew that they were in for good competition.

For the men's invitational 8K, Concordia finished eighteen out of thirty. This is quite an accomplishment considering that they finished above Division 1 schools such as Fresno State, Sacramento State, Pepperdine, Cal State University Northridge and University of San Diego.

The men's cross country team captain, senior Jason St. Pierre, had a few comments about the UC Riverside invitational and said, "It was faster, we planned on running as a pack. Although that did not turn out exactly how we wanted, two guys ran times faster than ever before."

Though St. Pierre chose to be humble and shine the spotlight on freshman Noah Plaza for running a jaw-dropping sub 25 minute 8K, St. Pierre ran a very impressive 25:12 time. St. Pierre hopes that this momentum that the team has gained can lead them into regional rankings.

Culture is key to success for the team. According to St. Pierre, "The guys are all bought into our core values which are respect, excellence, competitiveness, connectedness and discipline."

St. Pierre has ran cross country for eight years (since his freshman year of high school). His love for the sport is at an ultimate high explaining how he is fully bought into this season. Being a Resident Assistant the previous year, he knew that this year had to be different because he needed to put his full attention and focus on the team since he is the captain.

The momentum this talented group of runners gathered does not end here. With St. Pierre leading the team, their next meet is the Cougar Challenge at Cal State San Marcos on Sept. 24.

On top of the Cougar Challenge, a short three days later will reveal regional rankings for men's cross country. St. Pierre hopes to lead the team to make an impact and said, "We all have a common team goal which is to see Concordia as ranked in the top 10 of the region."

The cross country team is looking difficult to beat, and with their fighting and competitive spirit, they can find themselves not just in the regional rankings, but maybe even leaving their mark on the national stage. For more information visit cuigoldeneagles.com.

PICTURED ABOVE: *Men's Cross Country Team aims high*
Photo courtesy of: Crash Kamon crashkamon.com

Hope soars high as women's soccer advance through their season

PICTURED ABOVE: *Senior Gabby Breton In Action Photo courtesy of: cuigoldeneagles.com*

MAAD ALKADHIM
SPORTS EDITOR

The women's soccer team are on their way to accomplish a historic season this year, on and off the field, through their strong preseason performances against top opponents.

The season started with two major accomplishments. The first was beating Cal Poly Pomona at their home field for the first time in the program's history. The second was tying the number 10 seed in the nation, Western Washington.

Senior midfielder/ defender Emily Reardon said, "I think we had a really good start so far. We have played our hardest preseason yet. We are doing really good and if we win the next two games we have a really good chance of making the playoffs regardless if we win Conference or not."

Senior Gabby Breton agreed. "There have been big games where we have shown what we are capable of," Breton said, "Like our game against Western Washington we tied and they are number 10 in the nation. Honestly, in the second half we looked like the better team…Also beating Cal Poly Pomona, which was another strong team we always go neck and neck and we never have beat them away at their field ever and I think that was another big deal."

The early success was possible because of the players' attitudes and expectations. "I think we have a lot of talent this year. We have a lot of girls that came in ready to perform and ready to win it this year. We wanted to shift the way people have seen Concordia and now we are seen as a threat and we like that, but we do have a target on our back and we have to stay consistent," said junior midfielder Layla Comeaux.

"I really don't see our team being anything lower than second place. I am expecting us to be first place and I know we can do it. Tying the number 10 in the nation tells us we can do it. That is almost ranked higher than Point Loma and Point Loma is a team usually first in our Conference every year. So just with that in mind and then beating Cal Poly Pomona shows us what our team is capable of," said Breton.

The Golden Eagles having a team identity added to their strong position. "What we do well is our team camaraderie has been great this year," Comeaux said, "I think this year we worked hard on getting that and I think we try to play for one another and not play for the individual. I think we have done really well with that and have made us really successful."

Despite how well the team is doing, the women still see opportunities to imZprove. "Obviously our performance [in the loss to San Francisco State] was not the strongest to be honest. We didn't really follow the game plan or the way our team wants to play, which is to possess and build," said Breton. "I think it is a matter of discipline and staying focused through the full 90 minutes and performing."

"I agree. I think our performance [against San Francisco State] wasn't our greatest. However you do see how the score was super tight and even when we don't perform our best we are still able to pull out pretty good performances," said Comeaux.

The team's next game was against Point Loma on Wed., Sept. 21 and it proved to be a big test of their true preseason form. The Golden Eagles were able to pull off a tremendous 2-1 win against the Sea Lions.

At the end of the season, the Golden Eagles want to see themselves as conference champions and playing in nationals. To support your Golden Eagles in reaching their goal, come out and support at home on Sat., Sept. 24 when they take on Biola. To keep in touch with their progress for the rest of the season, follow their Instagram page @ cuiwsoccer. Go Eagles!

Women's volleyball hits their stride

ALEJANDRO PEREZ
STAFF WRITER

Following a slow start to the preseason, women's volleyball has done well in turning their record around with a four-game winning streak, including three PacWest wins to start their season strong.

Senior libero and defensive specialist Cassidy Gelacio said, "We expect to battle hard this season. We finished well last season so we do have a target on our back, but in my eyes, it is all the more reason to battle back harder and fight for every match." Gelacio added, "Our coach has prepared us to battle against the top teams in the nation, so there is no reason to hold back."

There is a high expectation this season for women's volleyball considering they are coming off the best season the program has had since joining the PacWest in 2015, with an overall record of 20-7 in the 2021-22 season. The team will look to further their winning ways by raising their standards.

Junior and defensive specialist Julia Wilson said, "The standards for our team are super important to developing our culture. We are expected to come in every practice and match and give our best effort and attitude. We also are expected to hold each other accountable both on and off the court, which helps raise our standard as a team."

With the 2022-23 season underway, Wilson credits the team's early success to the challenging pre-season head coach Paula Weishoff organized, emphasizing, "We worked very hard in preseason, starting with two weeks of double days. We had a large group of newcomers this year, so during these two weeks we were able to create relationships with our new teammates and gel better on the court ultimately leading to us playing better as a unit."

With a quick turn-around game coming up for the second home game, the stakes are high as they look to take on Azusa Pacific who are off to a good start to their season. However, Kirra Schulz, a senior and outside hitter emphasized that the plan is simple and said, "There is no change in the game plan, we are going to stick to our system and simply play our game." Schulz added, "When

we are able to trust each other and play with grit and intensity, we have proven that we are capable of beating any team."

The team looks to get back on their winning streak tonight against Azusa Pacific for their second home game of the season in the CU Arena. The match starts at 7 p.m. Come by to cheer on your fellow Golden Eagles as they take on Azusa Pacific and follow the women's volleyball team at cuigoldeneagles.

Review: The Theatre Department presents "A Doll's House (Part 2)"

PICTURED ABOVE: *Ben Levy, Left, and Catalina Tan, Right, Playing Nora and Torvald*
Photo courtesy of: Zane Miller

LEONARD MEMON
ARTS & REVIEWS EDITOR

The Theatre Department performed a play titled "A Doll's House (Part 2)" from Sep. 9 to Sep. 18 at the Concordia University Irvine Studio Theatre.

The play was a beautifully executed examination of what marriage is, the power dynamics that are present between the husband and the wife, the understanding that individuals cannot truly grasp how another perceives things and the unintended consequences of conflict.

The play also kept the audience on the edge of their seat through the simple yet effective communication of the deep philosophical underpinnings of the play, perfectly timed comedic relief, stellar cast, and well-selected costumes and set pieces.

To Nora, the primary character of the play, marriage was like a prison… and like a prison, there was no escape. Nora believed that if there was no escape from marriage, there was no motivation for a husband to treat their wife well. Rather, she believed that genuine love should avoid being shackled by the constraints of marriage.

A constant tension within the play was the idea that Nora, a woman, had different rights in many areas including the right to a divorce when compared to Torvald, her husband.

To avoid this fate, she left her husband and went on a quest to liberate other women from their marriages by writing books that discouraged marriage. However, the concept that marriage is bad is challenged by Nora's daughter, Emmy, who, in the play, is happily about to be married.

Emmy had never gotten to know her mother since her mother left her at a young age. Therefore, she did not know what marriage looked like, but knew all too well what the absence of marriage felt like.

Emmy's rationale for why marriage is good is that it is the opposite of an absence of marriage, which, in her youthful experience, is bad.

This thinking is consistent with the concept that the grass looks greener on the other side. Both Nora, who was married, and Emmy, who has never been married, desire what they do not have. This style of thinking begs the question of, will it ever be good enough?

The play seems to answer the questions with a no. Towards the end of the play, Nora explains her ideal marriage and concedes that, despite the men she had been with since leaving Torvald, she has never achieved her ideal.

The play also examined the notion that we do not understand events in the same way that others understand them. Nora and Torvald, for example, had differing accounts of the same events that unfolded throughout their marriage.

After reading Nora's book, which is largely influenced by Nora's experience of being married to Torvald, Torvald is offended by the monster that Nora depicts him to be. The surprise that Torvald displays after reading Nora's book displays the concept of how difficult it is to put oneself in the shoes of another.

The play also paints a descriptive picture of how unintended consequences affect others. Anne Marie, the former nanny, is torn between supporting Torvald and Nora as they work through their discussions on divorce. She even rejects the terminology that Nora uses when describing her as an ally because it implies that Nora and Torvald are in a war that she does not want to see happen.

The deep philosophical nature of the play was communicated in such a way that allowed the audience to understand and relate to the play. There were times in which audience members could be seen nodding along or staring at their significant other after a scene had concluded.

The audience also appreciated many other aspects of the play aside from the philosophical questions that it posed. The brief comedic moments that the play inserted throughout the entirety of the play were perfectly timed and had the whole audience laughing.

The cast was phenomenal! Nora, who was played by Catalina Tan, drew the audience in from the very beginning with her ability to hold the stage with charisma to spare. Anne Marie, who was played by Aubrey Walsh, showed the complexity of her character when she brilliantly juxtaposed a loud voice with a softer timid voice that Anne Marie used when she did not want any part of the events that were unfolding between Torvald and Nora.

Torvald, who was played by Benjamin Levy, made the audience feel what his character was feeling, through his judicious use of emotional outbursts. Emmy, who was played by Camille Beeson, masterfully walked the fine line of portraying a character who was passive-aggressive without knowing they were passive-aggressive. The costumes and the setting were aesthetically appealing and descriptive of the era that the play was set in.

Concordia's Theatre Department hit a home run with this play, and that's all there is to say!

Concordia's 2022 Fall Festival of Hymns

CALEB KELM
STAFF WRITER

The Concordia Choir and Concordia Master Chorale, led by Dr. Michael Busch, will be performing at Concordia's CU Center Sat., Oct. 1 at 4 p.m. in the annual Fall Festival of Hymns.

Concordia's choirs will be joined by guest composer and organist, David Cherwien who will lead the annual festival from our Casavant pipe organ in the Center for Worship and Performing Arts.

Cherwien is a nationally known artistic conductor, composer and organist of the National Lutheran Choir with over 150 published compositions. Known for his work concerning church music and liturgy, he has led hymn festivals across the country, and is constantly in demand to perform more. Cherwien's festivals are known for their creative merging of piano, organ, instruments and voices. He currently serves as Cantor at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis.

Concert Wind Orchestra, Sinfonietta, and both the men's and women's choirs will be participating in this year's event. These ensembles will focus on orchestral music along with classical symphonies. The various Concordia choirs have been practicing all semester for this event. Senior Isaiah Yunger said, "I have eight hours of rehearsal per week."

Yunger has been a part of Concordia's Wind Orchestra and jazz band since his freshman year, and is one of many in the percussion group. His favorite part of the concert is, "a piece called 'Shout!' It's heavy in percussive elements with over a half dozen drummers all hitting stuff at the same time." He is also looking forward to working with the choirs and "to hear their beautiful voices."

While not able to single out a favorite piece, sophomore Ethan Batiansila said "Our rep is full of really well and interesting arrangements of classical and newer and lesser known hymns. Some even written by the guest." He commented on the amount of time spent preparing for this event saying, "We practice from 3:10 to 4:40 and we are asked to practice a hefty amount to really strive for excellence in our sound." Batiansila, who has been a part of Concordia Choir, as well as Concordia's men's chorus, since his freshman year, added "Every year we have different duties and concerts to prepare for, with different repertoire too."

Attend the concert Saturday, Oct. 1st at 4 p.m in the CU Center to support the Concordia Music Department. Students and children are allowed free admission and guests can purchase a general admission ticket for $15. For more information about tickets or the event, visit https://www.simpletix.com/e/fall-festival-of-hymns-2022-tickets-112932 or for more upcoming music events, please visit https://www.cui.edu/arts/music/events

American students experience the UK in mourning

MADISON ZUNIGA

STAFF WRITER

For Americans, no event seems equivalent to the death of Queen Elizabeth II. Many Americans might view the passing of the queen as a historical occurrence, or perhaps the death of a celebrity. It is difficult to comprehend the cultural role the queen played in the United Kingdom. The Concordia Cambridge students have now experienced Britain's reaction firsthand. "It's one of those things you would never think you'd be semi-involved in," said Julia Swan, sophomore. "One of my friends said that it would be something I told my future kids about, and it would be like 'I was just about to get on my flight to England when the queen died!'"

On the flight, British Airways announced the event, and gave a moment of silence. In Heathrow Airport in London, dozens of screens displayed mourning messages and gray-toned photographs of the late monarch. In Cambridge, memorial shrines were displayed in every church, and in the windows of businesses. The memorials consisted of a photo, usually accompanied by candles, flowers, and perhaps a condolences book, open for mourners to sign. It seemed that the kindly face of Elizabeth II was everywhere, old and young, smiling gently from windows, signposts and banners.

The administrators for the Concordia Cambridge program commented on the significance of the event, recalling in comparison the passing of the Queen Mother in 2002, and the death of Princess Diana in 1997. The loss of Queen Elizabeth was certainly the most momentous of recent royal deaths, and has united the people of Britain in a unique and fascinating way.

A visit to London revealed a striking example of the reaction of the British people. On September 14, the group of Concordia students took the train down to the city, and were strictly advised to stay away from iconic locations like Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace, due to the massive crowds gathered there.

The queen's lying-in-state period was open from Wed., Sept.14, to early Monday morning, Sept.19. Thousands of people lined up to pay their respects. The Queue, as it was referred to, stretched along the river Thames and through the streets of London. Police officers present at the Queue informed the Concordia students that at its height, the line was six miles long, and a thirty hour wait. "The line itself is sort of awe-inspiring, in that it was able to bring the country together. The whole country came together in order to mourn a monarch," said Hailey Martinez, sophomore.

Arriving in England at the time of the Queen's death has inevitably made the study abroad experience vividly memorable. As visitors, the students of Concordia embrace this opportunity to experience the country of England during a time in which it is united by the loss of their queen. "I'm just really moved by the fact that in our modern setting where there's so much conflict with politics, with the British people there's now unity. There's largely a consensus that she was a great stateswoman, a piece of history and someone to be admired and mourned," said Oliver Di Martino, sophomore.

For more information about the Concordia Cambridge program, or other study abroad opportunities, contact faith.mckinney@cui.edu.

PICTURED ABOVE: The Late Queen Elizabeth II
Photo courtesy of: BBC

The world reacts to the death of Queen Elizabeth II

JOHN SYMANK

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Thurs., Sept. 8, Queen Elizabeth II, Britain's longest reigning monarch, passed away at the age of 96.

The news came as a shock to billions, and the mourning of the much-loved face of the British government has been a major undertaking for the island nation for the past weeks. For over 70 years, the queen served as the public face of the country, where she was a rock (and rock star) and source of strength for her people.

Before she was crowned queen, Elizabeth, then Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, famously said, "I declare before you that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service, and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong," and truly, she delivered on that promise.

There is certainly not a student, and likely not a faculty member, on campus who remembers a time before the Queen was crowned. To many, it seemed almost an inalienable reality.

"Honestly, it's a little weird," said Andrew Held, freshman. "I knew the 'immortal queen' thing was a joke, but it was almost one of the constants of life. There was Christmas and there was the queen. It's a little daunting, it makes you remember that everyone's mortal. I think we all knew it was coming, we just didn't know it'd be soon."

In the past several weeks, Britain has been alive with activity, with ceremonies, travel and various methods of mourning taking center stage as the country went through the lengthy process of putting their former monarch to rest. On Monday, Sept. 19, 11 days after her passing, the queen was interred in the royal vault, where the bodies of monarchs before her were laid.

The newly crowned King Charles III issued a statement in the wake of his mother's passing. "The death of my beloved, Mother, Her Majesty The Queen, is a moment of the greatest sadness for me and all members of my family. We mourn profoundly the passing of a cherished Sovereign and a much-loved Mother. I know her loss will be deeply felt throughout the country, the Realms and the Commonwealth, and by countless people around the world. During this period of mourning and change, my family and I will be comforted and sustained by our knowledge of the respect and deep affection in which the Queen was so widely held."

Magical News from D23 Expo

ELLIANA FORGIONE

STAFF WRITER

The D23 Expo, presented this year by Visa, was held two weeks ago at the Anaheim Convention Center, from Fri., Sept. 9, through Sun., Sept. 11. The last Disney event held at this location was Star Wars Celebration, which featured exciting news with special guest appearances from Ewan McGregor and Hayden Christensen.

This D23 weekend was filled with action packed announcements, upcoming releases and magical moments for fans with never before seen footage and a whole array of news from Disney park plans to the long anticipated return of "The Mandalorian."

Star Wars had a major showcase hosted by Lucasfilm president, Kathleen Kennedy. Kennedy was joined by various influential guests familiar to the Star Wars universe which included names from showrunners, Jon Favreau and Dave Filoni, to The Mandalorian himself, Pedro Pascal.

The beloved duo, The Mandalorian and his little partner, Grogu, are returning to a galaxy far, far away for a third season. Favreau, Filoni, and Pascal, were there to join the crowd's excitement. To share in that were castmates of the show ranging from Gincarlo Esposito (Moff Gideon) to Katee Sackhoff (Bo-Katan) to many more. It was an eventful morning as they discussed the new trailer and the upcoming season.

The Mandalorian's return means a lot for many people, especially for Erica Spohr, senior who is ecstatic about Mando's return, Spohr said, "The Mandalorian, the new season three I am most excited for." Spohr continued, she "connects the best with the story of The Mandalorian." The Mandalorian relates to many and even touches the hearts of so many fans worldwide. Follow these iconic characters into season three next year streaming only on Disney+.

To further the exciting news, Lucasfilm was joined by an emotional Harrison Ford, to promote the fifth movie in the famous blockbuster series, Indiana Jones, which will be released next year on June 30, 2023.

On the Disney parks side, news was shared about the remodeling and expansion in Disneyland's California Adventure Park. A major remodel is coming to the Pacific Wharf where it currently displays a carnival style setup. Over the course of time, it will be transformed into a brand new exciting place from the movie "Big Hero 6," called San Fransokyo.

When asked what their most anticipated project from D23 was, Desiree Sarkis, Concordia senior and Disneyland employee, was thrilled to talk all about the addition of San Fransokyo, "I am excited for there to be an Asian inspired food area." Sarkis explained the importance of new cultural food while the added bonus for her is Asian food. Sarkis' is hopeful this new cuisine will be popular among many other eager fans too.

An additional expansion is also taking place in the New Orleans area of the park. Sarkis said, "I am most excited for 'The Princess and the Frog' area - turning it into Tiana's dress shop and hopefully a Tiana restaurant." Sarkis is overjoyed by the inclusion of new cultures making their way over to Disneyland and the importance it has on others feeling culturally accepted.

After hearing about such a fulfilling D23 weekend, Sarkis and Spohr both expressed interest in attending a future D23 Expo, Sarkis even added how she would love to cosplay, "As an attendee, I would love to go to D23 as Princess Jasmine." While some love to go all in, others like to take it all in, Spohr said how she "would go for the experience." No matter the reason - D23 seemed like a great event for Disney fans to attend.

With all of the news released over a spectacular weekend, there is a lot to look forward to so be sure to catch the action exclusively at Disney parks, in theaters and with a Disney+ subscription.