



THE CONCORDIA COURIER

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Mo Roberson named new Athletic Director

CONCORDIA SPORTS INFORMATION
CONTRIBUTOR

Concordia's Athletic Department is proud to announce Mo Roberson as its new Director of Athletics.

"Mo Roberson is a man of faith and vision who espouses and lives out Concordia's core values," President Kurt Krueger said. "As our new Athletic Director, Mo will work hard to help our students achieve academic and athletic excellence, and provide leadership to our transition into NCAA II competition."

Roberson has served as Interim Director of Athletics since Jan. 7, and before that he was the Associate Athletic Director since Fall 2013. While in those positions, he has been responsible for all internal operations

"Mo Roberson is a man of faith and vision who espouses and lives out Concordia's core values"

within the athletic department, planning and assessment of athletics and sport team budget management and oversight, personnel (hiring to evaluation) and implementation of policies and procedures to assure University, conference and national compliance.

"I am very excited to become the Director of Athletics of the CUI Athletic Department and am very grateful to President Krueger, Dr. Gary McDaniel, the Executive Board and Search Committee," said Roberson.

"I look forward to getting to know all of our coaches, student-athletes and administrators better and building on the great work that God is doing at CUI. My family and I are excited to be a part of this special university! We are forever, grateful for this opportunity," said Roberson.

For the last two years, Roberson has become a key component of Concordia's long-term and short-term objectives and plans. He has represented the Athletic Department and institution in a variety of on-campus and off-campus roles. His knowledge of Division II athletics has been key in the growth of the university in the last three years.

"The success of CUI from both



an academic and athletic perspective is known. CUI wins national championships and I wanted to be part of an elite program like this," said Roberson. "The Lutheran mission of the University and sharing the gospel is something that I have embraced and want to share with all who interact with our program. We have a lot of quality coaches and support staff and I consider it an honor to work alongside them. Our goal will be to provide our student-athletes with an experience that they will remember for the rest of their lives and have an eternal impact."

He was a key member of the leadership team that helped write the ap-

plication for and transition to NCAA. Roberson leads in athletics' interest in athletic master planning, fundraising, upgrades and renovation of existing athletic facilities for the move to NCAA standards, and serves on various committees dealing with gender equity, diversity and inclusion.

Roberson came from California Baptist University (CBU) where he was involved with all facets of athletics from 2001 to 2013. Most recently, he served as Assistant Director of Athletics, Facilities, Event Management, Sports Medicine and Transportation since 2008. At CBU, he was a part of leadership team that helped CBU move through the NCAA pro-

cess seamlessly. He also oversaw several capital improvement projects within athletics.

He received both his M.S. in Sports Management in 2007 and his B.A. in Liberal Studies in 2005 from CBU. He is a member of the National Association of Collegiate Athletic Directors (NACDA), the College Athletic Business Managers Association (CABMA), the College Event and Facilities Manager Association (CEFMA), and the Minorities Opportunities Athletic Association (MOAA).

Roberson has volunteered on the Executive Board of the San Bernardino Pregnancy Resource Center and on the Executive Board of the

Riverside Sports Hall of Fame, including being the former president. He received the 2004 California Baptist University Employee of the Year award and has twice been recipient of MOAA scholarships to attend NACDA Conferences.

Roberson and his wife Rosy have two children, Sierra, and Matthew, and currently reside in Riverside. He enjoys reading and watching college sports. Roberson also serves at Cornerstone Fellowship Bible Church located in Riverside.

ASCUI Corner: Coming soon: CUI time capsule



ARIANA SADEGHIPOUR
ASCUI SECRETARY

As Concordia celebrates its 40th anniversary, the ASCUI Executive Board and Senate funded its first ever time capsule. “The event seeks to capture the spirit of Concordia and help encapsulate the identity of Concordia’s community,” said sophomore Ryan Van Dusen, ASCUI Treasurer. Items provided by faculty, staff and students will fill the entirety of the time capsule. Then, the capsule will be buried on campus and marked to

be opened on the 50th anniversary. Catherine Foster, ASCUI Vice President said, “This event will bring students, faculty and staff together as a campus to reminisce on items that make Concordia unique and shaped each one of our experiences while here. One of the items that I hope someone brings a Core syllabus because every single student has experience with Core and it definitely makes up a large part of our academic experience.” Additionally, Rose Jones, ASCUI Communications Director, suggested students bring, “rad items

that show Concordia’s personality from this generation.” ASCUI is open to all suggestions for time capsule items and hopes this event will bring the Concordia community together. As current members of the Concordia community unite for this event, ASCUI looks forward to opening the time capsule in ten years. Emily Dailey, ASCUI President, said, “Hopefully the time capsule will become an Eagle tradition and future students can add items to the capsule after it is opened for the first time. When it is opened in ten years,

all alumni and current students can come together to see how Concordia has changed structurally, academically and what traditions still carry on.” On April 6, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. outside the CU Center, ASCUI will be hosting a time capsule “filling” event. All time capsule items will be finalized and there will be a food truck on campus. Prior to this event, on April 4 and 5, ASCUI Senate will be collecting items from students outside of the cafeteria, so get involved! Want to put an item in the time capsule? ASCUI will be providing a

list of suggested items that students can sign up to bring. Have an idea for a time capsule item? Suggestions can be submitted in the ASCUI suggestion box located outside of the CSLD.

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PLAYER PROFILE



Name: Brett Barker

Sport: Baseball

Position: Utility

Height: 6-1

Class: Junior

Hometown: Laguna Niguel, CA

Previous School: Saddleback College

Accomplishments: Named PacWest Newcomer of the Week two of the first five weeks of the season.

Concordia Cheerleading enters first ever STUNT competition season

YVETTE MENDOZA
STAFF WRITER

The Cheer Team trades in their pom-poms for jerseys this semester as they move into their first season competing in STUNT. STUNT competitions will move the team away from traditional cheer routines into more technically challenging and strategic routines. “We are given 18, 30-second routines that focus on pyramids, jumps and tumbling, and partner stunts,” said Head Coach Amy Haney. “We learn these skills and then compete going head-to-head with another university.”

STUNT competitions have a similar format to other collegiate sports. There are four quarters and a half-time in each competition. Points are awarded to teams based on performance. Two teams are placed head-to-head and compete on the floor simultaneously. “STUNT has no cheer or dancing so it makes it more like a game experience for the spectator,” said senior co-captain Abigail Hatt.

The transition into STUNT has come with a change in training. “Crowd-cheering practice is more fo-

cused on getting the crowd engaged with simple, but well put-together cheers and routines,” said senior co-captain Jenna Sickles. “Instead of doing the same two-minute, 30-second routine for two hours, we can switch it up and focus on certain areas that need more work and that makes it fun,” said Hatt. “We try to build our muscle memories and clean things up by doing each routine repetitively,” said junior Abigail Pascual.

Title IX was conceived to ensure that no one would be discriminated against based on sex in institutions that receive federal funding. Since it became law in 1972, female participation in high school sports has increased by 900%, according to the Women’s Sports Foundation. The STUNT team now adds more women to Concordia’s athletic roster, to further Concordia’s compliance with Title IX.

The Cheer Team’s first competition was against Riverside City College back in February, where they won 13-8. Haney is excited to “compete in this new, growing sport” and shares how proud she is of her team. “As a coach, it is so rewarding to

watch the girls grow as a family and be successful on the mat,” said Haney.

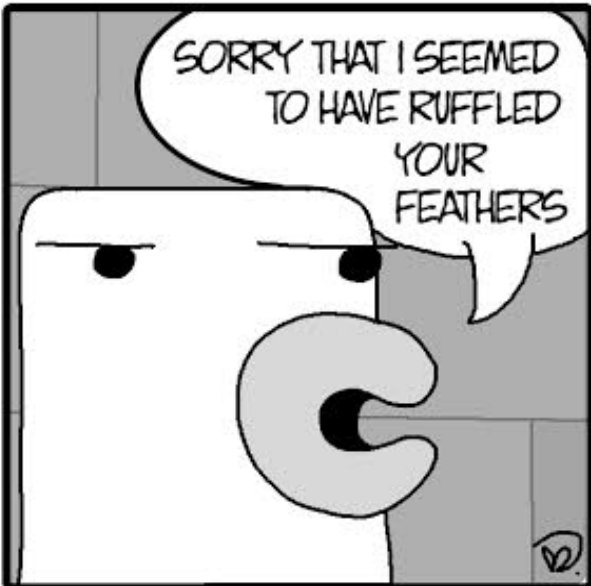
Moving into this new pool of competition is exciting for the team, but it also poses some challenges. “Our greatest challenge as a team is the fact that this is our first time competing in STUNT,” said Sickles. “No one on our team has done STUNT before, not even our coaches, so it has been a huge learning experience for everyone,” said Hatt.

Despite the challenges, the team’s cohesiveness and ability to work as a family has helped them overcome any difficulties. “As a team, we have approached this obstacle with a strong work ethic as we are continuing to progress in our skills. Our team goal is to represent Concordia well and perform to the best of our ability what we have been working on at practice,” said Sickles.

The roles will now be reversed as the crowd will be able to root for the Cheer Team as they hold their first home STUNT competition against Menlo College tomorrow at 10 a.m. in the CU Arena.



FOWL LIVING by Kara Der



Opportunities to continue education at CUI

SARAH JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Seniors receiving their bachelor's degree this spring have many advanced degree opportunities available to them after graduation. With midterms marking the second half of the semester, students are feeling the pressure to finish strong and make important decisions regarding whether or not they wish to continue their education.

If you are like the majority of college seniors on their way to graduate, panic fills the air. "What are your plans after school?" everyone constantly asks. Most have probably responded with either a small white lie, to get grandma off their back, or with a bit more honesty: "I have no idea." The graduate admissions office is here to lend out a helping hand to solve this problem of uncertainty.

Graduate school is not for everyone, but the graduate program has been organized to provide a variety of opportunities for all students. The university has carefully selected prestigious programs that fit the university's vision.

Advanced degrees at Concordia include business, coaching, health-care, international studies, theology, education, credentials for teachers and nursing. Most areas of study have concentrations that allow students to better tap into exactly what it is that they want to do. The grad admissions office searches intensely in order to connect potential students with the most highly regarded professors and classes.

Margaret Dix '15 received her bachelor's in Business Marketing. She was considering working towards her MBA at the start of this current school year. However, she committed to working for Tesla Motor Company, but she believes that the graduate admissions office helped her find her path. "I had no clue what my plans were after graduation. I reached out to graduate admissions to explore my options and they made it extremely easy to imagine my future with an MBA, and how my career opportunities would grow. To anyone unsure of their plans, graduate school may seriously be the answer," said Dix.

The graduate programs are quickly growing. Of the 4,000 students currently attending the university, 2,500

are in graduate programs.

Nursing has set the bar high for graduate applicants. Admission into the program is competitive, and Concordia's Nursing program enjoys an outstanding reputation.

CBS News found that a master's degree definitely leads to increased income when studying the impact of graduate school on ten particular professions. Such news may serve as the motivation students need to take the leap into a graduate program. With a master's degree comes the opportunity to be more flexible in your career path, as well as a more stable income.

For some students, a few more years of school seems to be better than heading out immediately into the workforce. To find out more information about ways to develop a stable future and career path contact the graduate admissions office on campus at (888) 796-5969 or by email at gradadmissions@cui.edu.



Irvine Police Department and Concordia's Campus Safety partner for successful active shooter training

TIFFANY THOMPSON
CAMPUS EDITOR

This week, optional active shooter training was provided for all faculty, staff and students on Tues., March 8 and Wed., March 9 and was successful in leaving all participants more prepared and better informed. The purpose of active shooter training is not only to prepare each individual for "what to do" scenarios but it is, according to Detective Kayla Wiebe, School Resource Officer and one of the presenters at the training, to "empower each person to act so that they can call 911 and fight for their lives." Wiebe feels that the topic is one that, "Nobody really wants to talk about." The training included a powerpoint seminar followed by a physical activity scenario that simulated a violent intruder. Afterwards, Irvine PD assessed the performance and repeated the simulation.

Rick Gramer, School Resource Officer, said that the biggest mistake that people make when in a violent situation is, "They don't act, they think of police officers as first responders but we're not, they are." Gramer said, "It's up to them to flight or fight, we get 6 months in the police academy to get used to the stress but they might have never felt this stress before, they don't know that there are options out there for them to save their lives."

Tom Sonoff, Executive Director of Campus Safety, started off the training with a warm welcome and a word of prayer. He believes that the training is very beneficial and wants the campus to be prepared. "We all watch the news, we all know what's going on around us. No organization is immune to this," said

Sonoff.

Some of the most important takeaways came from Sgt. Frough Jahid and Wiebe. Jahid emphasized that the training is, "Not just [for] guns, it could be anything." The training is not meant to be an if/then list, its purpose is to be, "fluid [and] evolving. We can't give a concrete answer for every scenario," said Jahid.

"Code black" was the phrase of the day. Code black is the number one thing that the training is meant to prevent. It simply means not acting - when someone freezes and does not respond. It happens when people are so stressed out that they can't react appropriately. "The more you physically walk through things, the better you will be prepared, muscle memory kicks in," said Wiebe.

Wiebe wants everyone to develop a "sheepdog mentality" and a culture of security with everyone being alert and aware at all times. In order to develop this, practice must occur. Every time a person enters a room they should be checking entrances, exits and lockable spaces. In the event of a violent intruder there are several options and each person has to assess the situation to discover which option is the best. Run, hide, fight was the mantra for this training. Pick one of them and commit. If hiding is the best option a hard lockdown goes into place. "Pretend you're not there, get into the furthest lockable space, doors locked, lights off, hide and be quiet," said Wiebe. Fighting is the "last ditch effort."

"Sandy Hook was very well trained and a very safe school," said Wiebe. "Every classroom that did a hard lockdown was safe." On cam-

pus there are many different types of doors and windows depending on the building, and some doors do not lock. The university is looking into a simple locking mechanism to install on the doors, according to Sonoff.

Mass notification of emergencies is available to everyone on and off campus. To ensure that you receive notifications, update the "emergency alerts notifications information" in "my records". This will allow everyone to receive text messages and emails in an emergency situation.

After the training, Director of First-Year Experience Programs & Initiatives Kristy Fowler felt "More prepared. Being in charge of freshmen, I wanted to know the protocol for what to do if something happened."

Julissa McCarrell, Undergraduate Admissions Applications Coordinator, planned follow-up activities. "We are actually going to have someone come to our office," said McCarrell. As far as what could make her feel more prepared, "Making sure that there are lockable spaces, all doors with locks, landline phones in every room and more trainings would definitely be things to follow up on," said McCarrell.

"California is not one of the states that mandates active shooter response training," said Jahid. "Training is the only way to think in a stressful environment." For more information on active shooter training and how to better prepare for violent intruder contact Campus Safety at CampusSafety@cui.edu.

Space Endeavors: To Mars and beyond?!

JASON RYAN
STAFF WRITER

Virgin Galactic, under the guidance of Richard Branson and Stephen Hawking, unveiled a new spaceship on Feb. 19 with the capability of going beyond where no man has ever gone before. While the eventual possibilities of the technology are endless, the current goal is to reach Mars within our generation's lifetime. This new space shuttle may present us with that opportunity. The cost per seat on the plane is about \$250,000. According to Branson's statement on CNN, the new spaceship endeavor "is the embodiment of that goal and also a great testament to what can be achieved when true teamwork, great skill and deep pride are combined with a common purpose."

While there is an excitement among students at Concordia regarding an eventual trip to Mars, apprehensions about a safe trip remain. There is also some concern about spending such a large amount of money on new space endeavors, when there is still much to learn about earth.

These new opportunities combined with the curiosity of what else could be out there makes saying no to space travel harder to do. "I think we should only be going out to space once we have the technology to really help us understand new information," said Junior Anthony Draper. "But whether or not we should make the leap and go to space is another story. It is all dependent on the advancement of the necessary technology."

While Draper is cautiously optimistic about the new opportunities to travel to space, other people think that the time for future space exploration is now. "I believe that space is the unknown ready to be explored. While many things can be found in space, new items are still to be explored on Earth," said

junior Wesley Spottiswood. Senior Ashley Foote agrees with that premise, adding, "If we continue to explore space we will be able to know how to improve our planet."

The real question is whether or not people should travel to Mars, and if we have the current technology to do so. "Simply the knowledge that we could travel to another planet has been in society's imagination for hundreds of years," said Draper. "However, beyond astronauts themselves landing there, I don't see much point in regular citizens traveling to Mars unless we had some sort of infrastructure there. Beyond the idea of traveling to another country, Mars itself makes Earth look like paradise."

Foote said she believed a trip to Mars "would be an advancement in modern space travel because once we realize how to make our planet better we [will] hopefully start fresh or improve our own planet before it's too late." Junior Jasmine Polee agrees, and stated that "it would be great for us to journey out there and get exposure. We will get a good grasp of what else is out there and that will give us answers beyond our imagination."

While a trip to other planets could be an extremely interesting venture, the questions remain as to whether or not we know enough about our own planet. "It seems to me that we do not yet fully understand ourselves or our own planet, and unless it is thought [that] we can discover new things about Earth through space-travel, I think we should prioritize learning more about ourselves," said Draper.

For more information on Virgin Galactic, visit <http://www.virgin-galactic.com/updates/> and look up their new space opportunities.

Conquering Core in Cambridge

This semester, four Concordia students are studying abroad at Westfield House in Cambridge as part of Concordia’s Core Cambridge program. Under the instruction of CUI professors Dr. James and Dr. Susan Bachman, these students study Core English and History as well as other courses offered by Westfield House of Theological Studies. This week, the students and professors share some of their favorite memories and observations about life in England.



One name. Two different games.

JAMI DERBY
CONTRIBUTOR

We knew coming to the UK that cars drive on the other side of the road and that French fries are called chips, but we did not know the confusion that the simple word “football” could bring. The two meanings of football have helped us learn the differences between the distinct sports in America and Europe. In Cambridge, we are living with people from all over the world and it is easy to be misunderstood when trying to communicate about a sport we all call football.

In America, football means the Denver Broncos, Peyton Manning and Super Bowl Sunday. Football means the excitement of high school homecoming games, Pop Warner and cheerleading camps.

Americans have the National

Football League (NFL) with brown pigskin balls and cheerleaders on the sidelines. Americans refer to the game with the black and white checkered ball kicked around as soccer, which can be recognized through professional soccer organizations like FIFA. Most of us think of soccer superstars like Mia Hamm and Alex Morgan from the US Women’s soccer team. Everyone throughout the world knows of the popular male superstar, David Beckham, a media icon.

In America, professional soccer is known as Major League Soccer. In the past 20 years, soccer has grown tremendously in America. Some of the well-known teams are LA Galaxy and New York City Football Club. Each plays at least 34 games per regular season and competes to win the MLS Cup. Teams are divided into an Eastern and Western conference. Soc-

cer takes the prize as the most popular sport by numbers of participants and spectators. Americans praise soccer for being a sport that gets people moving and promotes health and physical fitness.

When English people think of the word football, it automatically means association football (soccer), not to be confused with another form of football called rugby. A large audience follows association football throughout Europe and the world. Association football has seven times more the number of viewers than American football has worldwide each year. Americans enjoy and appreciate football in terms of the high school, college and the professional NFL levels. Both sports bring a significance in terms of recreation and cultural benefits, no matter which ball is involved.

In England, the most watched football falls under the category of the English Premier League, otherwise known as Barclay’s Premier League. The League consists of 20 clubs or teams and is the most watched football league in the world. The most known teams include Manchester United, Chelsea, Arsenal and Manchester City. The rivalries between the English premier teams can be heard discussed on a daily basis at work, over afternoon tea, in pubs and around dinner tables. As Concordia students, we have picked up on the excitement of going to local pubs and watching the games. Marissa Bearss says she loves the “community feel of watching the games. [It’s] like sitting in a living room with your family.”

Here at Westfield House, and in our residence, Luther Hall, a little corner of soccer fame has come to

live. A man named Abraham Audu moved in this term. He happens to be studying for his PHD in Engineering at Darwin College. On top of his studies, Abraham is a captain of the Cambridge University soccer league at Darwin College and is a good example of someone who is devoted and has a love for the game. You can always get his cheerful opinions on the game by asking a question.

In the UK the strong passion people of many ages have for soccer is tangible. The dedication for this sport is not only shown in the UK, but all throughout the world as it brings people together despite political, ethnic and religious differences.

Low gas prices are shocking Southern Californians

EMMA B. DEEHAN
STAFF WRITER

Over the past several weeks, gas prices have fallen significantly. Gas is cheaper in some areas than a gallon of bottled water. According to The Orange County Register, as of Feb. 22, 2016, “the average price of a gallon of gas in Orange County fell almost 20 cents in the past week to \$2.38. Prices are now 66 cents less than they were this time last year.” The price of gas has risen in the two weeks since this article was published, as the article predicted.

This week gas prices in Orange County are a bit higher. According to orangecountygasprices.com, on Mon., Mar. 7, the lowest regular Irvine gas prices in the last 24 hours ranged from \$2.39 at Costco’s gas station to \$2.54 on Jeffrey Rd. The price continued to fluctuate throughout the week.

The price of gas is expected to increase even more by the summer but remain below \$3.00 a gallon. This increase, according to the website, is due to the increase in cost for processing the summer gas blend. In the meantime, students are enjoying paying less for gas, especially those students who commute to school every day.

“I love it!” said Junior Annie Wilshire. “[It] makes going out and about more appealing.” In regard to the possible long-term effects of the low gas prices, she said, “From an environmental standpoint, [it would] probably [have] a negative effect in the long run with more people driving more.” She also noted that, “The prices are already climbing back up.”

Senior, Taylor Morrison said, “I love the extremely low gas prices. It helps a lot since I commute [along with] being a poor college student.” Commuters and on campus students alike love the low gas prices at the moment because money is often scarce for college students. Morrison also talked about the long-term effects and said, “It will lead to more pollution and less need for public transportation and people buying more gas guzzling cars.”

Junior Joe Silberstein said, “Gas prices are constantly fluctuating so there’s no telling how long they will last.” So while some students are happy with the short-term benefits of saving money a few students are more concerned with the long-term problem of saving the world and its inhabitants.



Behind-the-scenes: *The Glass Menagerie*



Jeremy Lewis directing the crew on lighting and sound.



Adam Ramirez working on the dress that he designed for the play.

KRISTEN SAULMAN
STAFF WRITER

At 9:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning, most students are still waking up or even sleeping in, but not the theater kids. Sat. March 5 kicked off tech week for the performance of Tennessee Williams's play *The Glass Menagerie*. During tech week, scene changes, costume changes, and lighting and sound adjustments are practiced repeatedly until everything is running smoothly for opening night.

The play features four performers: two actors and two actresses. Christian Rowe plays Tom Wingfield, the narrator of the play, Corey Lowmes plays Jim O'Connor, Tom's coworker, Ann Elyse DeMuch plays Laura Wingfield, Tom's shy sister, and Breann Piantanida plays Amanda Wingfield, Tom and Laura's eccentric

mother. The number of actors is small, but the crew for the play is not.

Over 20 students and staff, during tech week, the crew worked to create the set, lighting, sound and costumes that will take the play off the pages of the script and onto the stage. Jeremy Lewis, director and adjunct faculty member, said that "plays aren't written to be read, they're meant to be viewed" and that once the cast steps foot onto the set, it is like they have entered a new world.

Lewis is a guest director at Concordia, and *The Glass Menagerie* is the first play that he has directed for Concordia. *The Glass Menagerie* was chosen last July. Lewis said that he liked the play because "it is an American classic that is a unique challenge and opportunity." For Lewis, directing a play is "a layering process" and tech week is a process that provides the

lighting and staging that "gives a sense of intimacy between the actors and audience." This level of intimacy helps the audience empathize with the pain and sadness of the characters.

The costumes play the key role of helping the actors communicate with the audience. Adam Ramirez, costume designer for the play, said you can "tell someone's individual story through their clothing." Each character has their own personality and aesthetic that their clothing helps convey. Costumes help the characters "stand out as individuals while blending in with the world," said Ramirez.

The show only has a four person cast, but 12 costumes are being used. 10 of the costumes were assembled with individual pieces that were owned and rented by the Theatre department, and the remaining two costumes were hand-made by Ramirez.

Ramirez calls these two costumes "party dresses" and will be featured in the dinner party scene in the second act.

Test after test is conducted to determine the ideal lighting for each scene. The lights go on, then back off. Brighten, then slowly dim into a muted glow that bathes the actors in soft radiance. The changes in lighting signal scene progression. Spotlights single out a lone actor to highlight soliloquies. Jennifer Conlin, stage manager, said that lighting and sound are practiced until "the audience will think that it's flawless." *The Glass Menagerie* is the tenth show that Conlin has worked on at Concordia. Conlin said that lighting is important because it "lets the actors feel completely immersed in the scene" and helps the audience follow the play's progression.

Opening night for the play is today, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the Concorida University Studio Theater. Other showings will be on Sat. March 12, Fri. 18 and Sat. 19 the show begins at 7:30 p.m. A matinee of the show runs this Sunday and next weekend's as well at 2 p.m. General Admission is \$15 per person, and CUI Students, Faculty and Staff get in for free. *The Glass Menagerie* showcases the stresses of a fading Southern belle mother and her adult children who still live at home in 1937 while she attempts to push her delicate children into a better life - and past their breaking points. For more information regarding additional show times and ticket sales, please visit <http://www.cui.edu/thearts>.

Elizabeth McGhee's realistic symbolism

COURTNEY HENTZ
LAYOUT EDITOR

On Tues., Feb. 23 there was an Artist Lecture held in the Grimm Hall Gallery featuring work by Elizabeth McGhee. The lecture featured a short discussion with the artist about her work and journey from college student to professional artist. Her exhibition, *Realist Symbolism: Unconventional Interpretations of the Familiar*, plays with the three themes of mythology, children's toys and puns. All of her work is done with oil paint on wooden panels. Each painting can take weeks to months to complete based on the size of the piece.

McGhee's work is very interesting and well rendered. She uses witty ideas to create her compensations. One that particularly stood out was a painting of a child's toy, a Q letter block. The block was tilted on its side and sat next to a single Q-Tip. The painting was entitled *Q-tip* due to the fact that both objects represented the same thing — an actual Q-tip and a Q tipping. There were a series of similar painting of toys with puns hidden throughout.

I also appreciated a series of robot paintings. At first they appear to be small, well rendered paintings of robots and not much more. Upon further inspection, one realizes that the paintings are all named a series of silly names that spell out Doe-Moe-Are-Eee-Gah-Toe Mr. Roe-Bot-Toe.

Perhaps my favorite piece in the gallery was a part of McGhee's Mythica series. This series will feature 80 paintings of modernized greek mythology. Currently, McGhee has about 50 painting within this series finished, leaving 30 left to be painted. Six paintings from this series can be found in this exhibition. McGhee's piece *The Graeae* featured three women seated by a duck which were to resemble the Greek Myth of *The Graeae*. The Graeae myth features three grey witches that can tell the future while sharing one all seeing eye and one tooth.

The modernized version of this in the painting has three women sharing a digital camera to represent the eye and a Bluetooth to represent the tooth. The goose seated next to the women is there because geese are an ancient symbol for witches. The entire painting is done in greys and blues perhaps to reference *The Graeae's* nickname of The Grey Witches. What is most impressive regarding this piece is how natural the women look. Not only is the rendering very realistic but the clothing choice and hair and make up of the women look very true to model. McGee attributed this to the fact that her models are told to come dressed in whatever they feel comfortable. This creates a very interesting composition of very true to character models.

While McGhee's work was very captivating, it was her truthful discussion of her transition into the art world

that truly stole the show. McGhee told her story of starting out and of all the things she learned along the way. This was helpful for all the art students that attended. She spoke of what it was like to do commissioned work and the interesting stories that arise from it. She also told of how hard it

was for her to price her own work and value her time. The entire discussion was very enlightening especially for senior art students like myself who will soon find themselves in the real world dealing with this very same issues. Her honesty was very refreshing and encouraging.

You can view the aforementioned work at the Grimm Hall Gallery or online at Elizabeth McGhee's website: <http://www.elizabethmcghee.com>.



What's new on Netflix?

A column that details the highs and lows of Netflix to assist Concordians in the ongoing struggle of picking something to watch.



America's favorite family just got fuller

AMANDA DRUCKREY
STAFF WRITER

Your favorite 90's show is back for a re-boot! *Fuller House* joins the growing line up of Netflix original series and continues the legacy of its 1987 source material, *Full House*.

This 13 episode series follows D.J. Tanner-Fuller (Candace Cameron Bure), who lost her husband, was left to raise her three boys: Jackson (Michael Campion), Max (Elias Harger), and Tommy (Dashell & Fox Messitt). Stephanie Tanner (Jodie Sweetin), D.J.'s younger sister and her crazy friend Kimmy Gibbler (Andra Barber) offer a helping hand and move in with D.J. and her sons to support them. Sound familiar? However

unlike the original series, this time Kimmy's daughter, Ramona (Soni Bringas) joins the clan. The Tanner house in San Francisco becomes full once again.

The first episode features many of the old cast members, even Nicky (Blake Tuomy-Wilhoit) and Alex (Dylan Tuomy-Wilhoit). Unfortunately, two of the original cast members never make it to the reunion. To many viewers disappointment and my own, Michelle Tanner, D.J. and Stephanie's youngest sister, who were once played by Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, never make an appearance. Instead, the show references Michelle and make jabs at Mary-Kate and Ashley for not being a part of the reboot.

It was really great to see all the

old cast members. Later episodes feature guest appearances from Danny Tanner (Bob Saget), Uncle Joey (Dave Coulier), Aunt Becky (Lori Loughlin), and of course Uncle Jesse (John Stamos). Not to give anything away, but Steve Hale, (Scott Weinger) D.J.'s old flame and high school sweet heart, also makes multiple guest appearances.

Fuller House was clearly created for the fans. Watching the show, you just know the cast is having a great time. The jokes are self-deprecating and sometimes, the fourth wall is destroyed and actors reference their real lives for a laugh.

Full House was known and loved for its cheesiness and the reboot captures that original feel in the best way.

The new show fully embraced the cheesiness of the first. John Stamos who plays Uncle Jesse and is the executive producer of *Fuller House* said on Jimmy Kimmel Live, "It's a labor of love we've literally been trying for so many years to do it right and I think we finally got it perfect."

Fuller House captures the feels of the original. The good ol' Danny Tanner talks are back as well countless group hugs. Even the old catch phrases are back, "how rude," "cut it out" and "have mercy." The original show charmed audiences with its deep rooted family foundation and values. The importance of family and being there for each other was emphasized.

Throughout the series, the char-

acters are challenged by death, part-nering, divorce, love and everyday teenaged life. And of course every problem can be solved with a group hug.

This heartwarming mini-series plays on 90's nostalgia and makes you laugh just as it did the first time. The Tanner-Fuller's are back in American homes and plan on staying there. The show has already signed on for another season!

If you enjoyed watching Full House growing up, this is a must see series.

Blaze Pizza versus MOD Pizza: Who takes the title?

ZACK MOGHADDAM
STAFF WRITER

Two pizzerias in Irvine have gained considerable popularity through an assembly line approach to making pizza. Blaze Pizza and MOD Pizza have implemented a build-your-own style in a fast casual setting that gives the customer the luxury of choosing the particular ingredients that will go on a personal sized pizza before it is cooked in a fire oven. This efficient way to create a custom pizza has caused a rush of students from Concordia and UCI to enter the doors of each establishment.

Blaze is located down the street from Concordia in the University Town Center on Campus Drive, which is directly across the street from UCI. Blaze' website boasts fresh dough, artisanal ingredi-

ents and a 180-second cooking process. They have nine signature pizzas that the public can choose

"From their dough to the toppings, [Blaze] tastes fresher"

from, and they offer a build-your-own option. The build-your-own option gives the customer the opportunity to pick the specific sauce, meats and veggies that will go on the respective pizza.

Even closer to Concordia stands MOD, located on Alton Drive. MOD is distinct in its menu options. MOD's menu consists of ten types of pizzas to order from, in addition to the customized pizza option. MOD gives the customer unique choices, especially in the sauces that are provided.

According to MOD's website, the customer has freedom to put sauces on the pizza such as pesto, BBQ, Sriracha and hot buffalo sauce. These are unusual selections for pizza, however, it gives MOD a special touch to their restaurant.

Walk into a Blaze or MOD during the lunch or dinner hours, and one will see a line that stretches out past the front entrance doors. In the midst of this popularity, Concordia students weigh in on which pizza restaurant they prefer.

Junior Austin Webster said "From their dough to the toppings, [Blaze] tastes fresher." Webster also said that Blaze has a "modern artistic" atmosphere that attracts him to the establishment. The combination of good tasting pizza and a contemporary vibe produced by Blaze has hooked students at Concordia.

Junior Martin Thomas is another student who likes Blaze because of the environment. He feels the surroundings at Blaze fit a "younger crowd." Thomas said that he does not prefer one over

the other, but he admits that he goes to Blaze more than MOD because of the college-aged setting.

Senior Jasmine Barron also favors Blaze over MOD, especially because of the types of crust offered. "What I like most about Blaze is the thin crust" said Barron. When it comes to ingredients offered between the two pizza chains, Barron said that she prefers Blaze by far.

Charlie Hirst, who is a frequent patron of MOD in Irvine and a resident of Costa Mesa, said that he passionately prefers MOD over Blaze because of the taste. Hirst, who adheres to a gluten-free diet, said, "The gluten-free crust is delicious."

In the battle for the best pizza, Concordia students chose Blaze over MOD. Nonetheless, MOD still attracts loyal customers.

A Coffee Lover's Guide to the OC

KARINA DIEZ | LOCAL/GLOBAL EDITOR

Post break funk can be hard to kick. It's a struggle we all know too well. But, worry no more! Here are a few local spots where you can sip on a fresh brew, unload your textbooks and get in the zone.

Ink & Bean Coffee Saloon and Wordshop (Anaheim)



Settle down amongst the sea of books that line every inch of this intimate little shop, from the walls to the ceiling. Let the words that surround you, inspire you.

Drink to Try: Inquire about "Restricted Menu" with drinks named after famous authors

Coffeebar Byul (Irvine)



The minimalistic ambiance of this shop perfectly compliments their lavish selection of beverages. (Plus, they have a lot of outlets for you to charge your laptop.)

Drink to Try: Affogato

Milk + Honey (Costa Mesa)



Enjoy the sights and smells of their beautiful array of succulents. Snuggle up on one of their patio chairs and give into the serenity.

Drink to Try: Lavender Latte

Hidden House Coffee (San Juan Capistrano)



If you're truly looking for an escape as you get into the study grind, visit this rustic local favorite. You'll feel right at home.

Drink to Try: Iced Vanilla Latte

Urth Caffe (Laguna Beach)



Pick a seat on the deck of this cozy cottage and let the ocean breeze tousle your hair as you sip on your cup of joe.

Drink to Try: Spanish Latté

Portola Coffee Lab (Costa Mesa)



Located in the very trendy OC Mix; enjoy the perfect cup made by true coffee artisans. And when you're done, head on over to IKEA for some meatballs. Sounds like a great day to me!

Drink to Try: French press or any of their house roasts