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Concordia University Irvine

Friday, September 18, 2015

New MAIS program in Africa



Accra, Ghana -- Photo Credit: ghanasunshine.com

TIFFANY THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

"Expand your horizons and realize that Africa is rising" was the welcoming call that Dr. Salim Faraji wanted all students to hear regarding the new Masters of Arts in International Studies (MAIS) Africa program. Africa is not just filled with lions, tigers and safaris. It has developed greatly and become something that everyone should experience.

Faraji, Executive Director of the MAIS Africa program, was brought on board to help with the execution of this new addition to the MAIS programs here at Concordia and, together with his team, successfully created a program that incorporates both internship and the master's degree program together. Most study abroad trips to Africa incorporate missions work and learning experiences only. This program has four semesters and offers a completely immersive experience.

Students begin their journey here on the Concordia campus and take five classes from the beginning of the fall semester until Decem-

ber. They then jet off to Ghana on Dec. 28 with Faraji waiting for them, as well as Ghana University students whom they will be paired with one-on-one in Accra, Ghana. They will reside there in Aya Center from the spring semester to the end of the summer semester. They will be living, working and studying and then return home.

There are currently eight students in the program and according to Faraji, they all have one thing in common -- "A desire to learn more about the African continent in a way that is experiential, in a way that transcends the media stereotypes and the media representation of Africa," Faraji said.

"They gain experience actually living, studying and working beside continental Africans. They also wanted to contribute to some of the solutions that the African continent needs." These student are considered "historic and pioneers because they are paving the way for the MAIS Africa program," Faraji said.

Taylor Sirna, Graduate and Adult Admissions counselor, saw several differences between the already-established MAIS China and

the flagship year of MAIS Africa. "Students have the choice of working with different internships. It's more broad. You are not focused on just teaching," Sirna said. As students conduct data collection for their thesis, many could potentially be hired by the companies they are assisting.

MAIS Africa allows students to choose an area of concentration in International Development, International Business, Global Public Health, or International Education. The students are "capacity building consultants who assist in strengthening organizational core competencies," Faraji said.

The learning that occurs in Ghana is through both experience directly with the internship sites, which include ABAN, a company created by a CUI graduate; Bank of Ghana; B.A.S.I.C. International (Brothers and Sisters in Christ); Beacon House; Lospong Group of Companies; Sakuona Community; health centers and educational institutes, as well as online and face-to-face classes.

Graduate student and U.S. Navy veteran Tedford Hope is excited about the program be-

cause it is a 12-15 month immersive M.A. program which allows him to go into a Ph.D. program a year earlier than from a regular 2-3 M.A. program. He specifically chose the MAIS Africa program because he wanted to take an Africana Studies undergraduate experience and put it to practice. "Being an Africana Studies scholar, I want to be able to make alliances with other Pan-Africanists on the continent of Africa," Hope said. Hope has chosen his concentration in International Education because he wants to "empower Ghanaian children in primary and secondary schools. I want to design an African History curriculum for the children so they can know the history from an African perspective," Hope said.

In order to be considered, a student needs to have a minimum of a 2.75 GPA. A student does not need to speak another language in order to go because the primary Ghanaian language is English. July 1 is the deadline for early admission. There is an information night Oct. 13 at 6 p.m. for all interested students. Visit www.CUI.edu/MAISAFRICA for more information.

Move to NCAA Division II puts Eagles on a bigger map

JULIAN MYERS
STAFF WRITER

This fall marks the second official transition year in Concordia's journey from NAIA to NCAA Division II. This transition implements new competition, rules and regulations for staff and athletes while giving Concordia the ability to attract new talent.

"The NCAA has more name recognition than the NAIA. Being branded with the NCAA is definitely a positive thing for our profile," said Brian Gaul, Director of Athletic Communications. While the transition into NCAA Division II opens new challenges for the staff and athletes of Concordia, it also opens the Eagles up to a bigger crowd of high school and junior college recruits trying to play at the NCAA level. "(With Divisions I, II and III,) the NCAA, just has more teams than the NAIA. Being branded under NCAA is more appealing than being branded

under NAIA," Gaul said.

Since we are in a transition year, we cannot compete in NCAA postseason competition yet, but in the years to come, varsity teams can compete to make it to the NCAA regional tournaments. "We get through the transition process on schedule, which we are hopeful and planning to do; the year of 2017-2018 will be the first full year where we can compete in the postseason and advance to the NCAA regional championships," Gaul said.

However, with this new title comes new competition. Gaul said, "The PacWest is a strong conference and will be much stronger than the GSAC conference." Sports like basketball, soccer and softball, which are familiar with the GSAC conference, will have to adapt to the new competition the PacWest conference offers.

Concordia's NCAA recognition also allows for a wider range of teams to get conference affiliation, such as water polo and beach

volleyball, which are now under a conference and a national association. Rhett Turvey, senior standout on the Men's Water Polo team said "Our water polo team went from not being in a conference to being in the Western Water Polo Association, which includes UC San Diego, Loyola Marymount University, Santa Clara University and other tough schools." This move gives teams like water polo and beach volleyball a chance to compete for both a conference title and NCAA title in 2016-2017.

"This change makes things harder because the NCAA is involved with more sports, so that involves more reporting, more statistics tracking, and more archiving," Gaul said. Not only is the workload harder, but also staff and athletes have to adjust to the new rules and regulations the NCAA carries. Gaul said, "For the last two years we have had weekly rules meetings with the compliance office. We go through at least one area of the new rules every staff meeting."

Not only does this affect the staff of the athletic department, but the athletes as well. "We are now limited to eight hours a week of offseason training; in the NAIA we had unlimited hours of offseason training which contributed to our success in the NAIA," said senior softball player Hannah Howell.

With the higher profile the NCAA gives the Eagles comes a higher standard of rules and regulations, which students and staff are adapting to during this transitional period. "There are a few weird, tedious rules we have to look out for," Turvey said. "I can no longer compete in my annual fantasy football league because it is considered gambling and that is a violation of NCAA student-athlete conduct."

As Concordia moves into NCAA Division II, in what Gaul calls "a positive move" for the future of the Eagles, the school can compete soon for NCAA Division II championships and attract a bigger pool of athletes.

ASCUI corner: *Senate results are in*

ARIANA SADEGHIPOUR
CONTRIBUTOR

On Sept. 10 and 11, over 350 Concordia undergraduate and graduate students came out to vote for their ASCUI Senate Representatives. Voting took place over the course of two days, outside of the Student Union Caf. The votes are in and have been tallied.

ASCUI handed out Otter Pops to each voter, which turned out to be a sweet escape from the blistering, hot weather. Francesca Rubino, junior, said, “I enjoyed having the opportunity to vote on the incoming Senators because it allowed me to have my input on who is representing the student body to the administration. The Otter Pops weren’t too bad either!”

“Being given the opportunity to vote for the Senators made me and other seniors I know feel like we still had another chance to influence what happens on campus,” Ania Washington, senior, said. “It is nice to know that what we

want actually matters.”

In order to be elected into Senate, the candidates had to receive 15% of the votes. Sixteen of the candidates made these requirements and are now elected Concordia University Irvine Senators.

As a newly elected Senator, Celina Stratton, junior, said, “I am most excited about communicating with students as a first-time Senator and collaborating with ASCUI’s executive board to help bring lasting, campus-wide changes.”

Dominique Ancona, junior, another elected Senator, is “excited to serve as a link for students to have their voices heard on campus.” Additionally, Ancona’s goal in Senate is to “contribute to making Concordia a suitable place for every student.”

Recently-elected Senator sophomore Claire Brainard said, “I want to renew the campus to bring it to its full potential. I am most excited to help the students realize that they themselves can be a change on campus.”

The ASCUI Executive board looks forward to a year of working alongside the ASCUI Senators. Together, they will work to make significant campus changes and to make sure that questions and concerns of the student body are being heard and answered. The first Senate open forum will take place on Sept. 23 starting at 10:30 a.m. in Student Union 202. Everyone is welcome.

Please welcome the 2015-2016 ASCUI Senators: Sarkhan Nabiyevev (freshman), Evetter Jahangiri (freshman), Chloe Heiser (freshman), Jessica James (sophomore), Claire Brainard (sophomore), Nikki Ancona (junior), Amanda Alvarez (junior), Celina Stratton (junior), Hayden Kirkman (junior), Reanna Benton (junior), Erika Boychenko (junior), Lauren Youngsma (junior), Damiana Gumiran (junior), Christian Woodfin (senior), Joshua Henderson (graduate student) and Adal Osman (graduate student).

Concordia launches official Snapchat: @concordiairvine

KAYLIN KEMPER
STAFF WRITER

The official Concordia University Snapchat account was launched on Sept. 1, and within one day had over 80 new followers.

Concordia’s Social Media & Marketing Team decided to start a Snapchat account because of Snapchat’s immense popularity among college-age students. A recent Business Insider article stated, “Snapchat is the top platform for users aged 18-24 with 45% of them on the platform, almost double the amount on any other platform.” After seeing these numbers, Veronica Steele, Social Media Manager, and senior Shea Frates, Social Media Assistant Manager, knew that Concordia needed to jump on board with the trend.

Frates currently manages the account and posts stories on a daily basis. Currently, the social media team is testing the waters to see what works and what doesn’t. Frates has done a lot of research to understand what the university’s audience is looking for and is confident in the new improvements.

Snapchat has been a great platform to connect our university to our students. This platform can be used to inform students and faculty of events that occur throughout the university. The social media team recently worked with Career Services to help make the announcement of the water shutoff. In many cases students throughout campus are made aware about incidents through social media, whether they’re following Concordia on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook. Instead of checking campus safety alerts by email, students and staff can quickly receive important updates from such platforms. Megan Leckich, sophomore, said, “I live on campus and it was great for me to be notified that the water was off while using Snapchat.”

Although the team will publish Snapchat stories about information students should be aware of, they publish fun content as well. The focus is to generate a campus unity through social media and demonstrate a human focus of campus life.

Students that are looking to be more in tune with Concordia’s community should use #cuirvine over Twitter and Instagram. Using a school-wide hashtag is a great way for new and current students to get connected.

Students are also encouraged to make any helpful suggestions and actively participate in building up the new account. Frates said, “All suggestions can be tweeted at @concordiairvine.” Follow @concordiairvine on Snapchat.



THE CONCORDIA COURIER

INVESTIGATE.INFORM.IGNITE.INVOLVE.

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Women's Volleyball

Preparations for the first PacWest match

JASMINE POLEE
STAFF WRITER

As Women's Volleyball starts the preparation for their first PacWest match against Hawaii Pacific University, they should worry a little less with a head coach as experienced as Paula Weishoff.

Weishoff's volleyball career first started when she was a freshman in high school with no experience at all. Because she was tall, she was asked to join the team. Weishoff had no idea that 18 years later she would be coaching the sport. It was not until the head coach at the University of Southern California offered to help Weishoff finish her degree if she agreed to coach volleyball at the university that she began coaching.

After her first experience coaching, "I fell in love with volleyball," Weishoff said. Shortly after this experience, Weishoff's career took off in a direction that she could have never imagined.

"The women have worked so hard to get to this point and I am very proud of them."

In 2004, she was offered the position to coach the Women's Volleyball team here at Concordia. She coached here for five years before leaving to coach at the University of California, Irvine. She made her decision to leave because it was an opportunity for her to coach at a Division I level without relocating cities. Now, six years later, Weishoff is back at Concordia and she is glad to be back to assist the women as they enter the PacWest conference. After competing at an intense level, even going on to compete in the Olympics, Weishoff is prepared to coach the team at PacWest.

Now that Weishoff is back at Concordia, she is coaching the Women's Volleyball team as they prepare for their PacWest match. Weishoff believes that, "entering the Pac West match will show us, as a team, where we are and what changes/upgrades we need to make for the future." She is excited to enter the PacWest con-



CUI 2015 Women's Volleyball Team -- Photo Credit: CUI Athletics Website

ference. "The women have worked so hard to get to this point and I am very proud of them," Weishoff said.

Despite the fact that Concordia is entering the Pac West conference as the underdog team, the women have the potential to excel. "Every team is going to be a tough match; however, we have an incredible coaching staff with tons of

experience, and they do an awesome job putting together a practice plan that will be effective in a game environment," junior Taylor Dennison, captain, said. Moving from NAIA to the NCAA was a huge step for Concordia's Women's Volleyball team just because it is a different level of competition. Entering PacWest comes with a higher standard and quicker pace of the game.

"We've been working really hard, adapting and accepting the coaching staff and their techniques, learning to trust them and what they know and it's starting to show come game time," Dennison said. The Women's Volleyball team along with their entire coaching staff is excited for their first PacWest match and as a whole they are prepared to do extremely well.

A legend in the lineup

Softball welcomes new assistant coach Gary Ferrin

HANNAH HOWELL
STAFF WRITER

Concordia Softball is excited to welcome Loyola Marymount University (LMU) legend Gary Ferrin as Assistant Coach for the 2015-2016 season. Ferrin was the head softball coach at LMU for 21 years. He has the most wins of any coach in LMU history, with 693 wins.

Head Coach Crystal Rosenthal is thrilled to have Ferrin on staff. "I am so excited to welcome Ferrin to our staff. He brings a wealth of knowledge that will be invaluable to our program," Rosenthal said. "With the transition to NCAA Division II, it will be

very beneficial to have a coach on staff with experience in the NCAA. Coach Ferrin has 21 years' experience in the NCAA and will help Eagle Softball make the transition."

Ferrin is very happy with his decision to join Eagles Softball. "I have a high respect for their staff and feel fortunate to be able to join them. I am excited to be part of Concordia's solid, faith-based environment, and I feel very welcome among this community, as they feel my accomplishments and experience have something to offer," Ferrin said. Ferrin will use his knowledge of the game to go out and recruit high caliber athletes to the Concordia Softball Program. Through his experience, he has a keen eye for great

softball players. Recruiting will be his main duty. Ferrin has known the Concordia Soft-

"I am so excited to welcome Ferrin to our staff. He brings a wealth of knowledge that will be invaluable to our program."

ball coaches for quite some time and knows how competitive the program is. Ferrin

is very excited to be able to compete for a championship when the NCAA probation is up, and feels very fortunate that he will be a part of a program that has the ability to compete at that level.

Senior second baseman Megan Feuerstein said, "He has been around the game for so long and is so respected in the softball community, that we are very lucky to have him on our coaching staff. This being our first year in the PacWest conference, it will be very helpful that he has been in the NCAA for so long."

The team is very excited to welcome Ferrin as a coach. "I look forward to working with my entire staff as we begin a new era," Rosenthal said.

Men’s Soccer falls to Sonoma State



Men’s Soccer against Sonoma State-- Photo Credit: Concordia Athletics Website

CAMERON MCLEOD
STAFF WRITER

On Thurs., Sept.10, Men’s Soccer fell 0-5 to the Sonoma State Sea Wolves. This was the Eagles’ second loss of the year. The team faced a tough start this season but are determined to change their record. The Eagles found themselves in a slight uphill climb going into the game, playing a now 3-0 Sonoma State team. The match was determined by the shot count. Throughout the game, The Eagles were outshot 19-7. Sonoma State had lots of ball control which led to the plethora of shots

taken at goalies Jordan Brinkley, junior, and Christian Tait, freshman. The now 0-2 Eagles look to move forward from their losses. “We’ll learn from it, we’ll get better from it and we’ll grow from it,” said Head Coach Chris Gould. The Eagles have many opportunities to improve throughout the season. Through these first couple games the team is still growing as a unit. “Coming in as a freshman, I wasn’t sure what to expect, but everyone in the soccer program has been extremely welcoming. I look forward to practices every day with these guys that

I now consider my brothers,” freshman Ben Esquivel said. “We’re going to have to take a good hard look at ourselves and say maybe we need to change some things as far as our identity as a team and try out some new stuff,” Gould said. For now, students will have to wait for the next couple of games to see what will be implemented, but the next home game will be an example of new strategies for the team. The men look ahead to travel to San Bernardino State and then to a future match, at home, against Masters College (4-1-1) to finish

off their nonconference opponent schedule. These games will be their final test and tune-up before heading into the PacWest Conference matches. This year will be the test for Eagles in the new competition under NCAA Division II. After a rough start to the season, the men seek a victory to kick off the start of conference play. The Eagles are looking to get a win and turn the season around. Masters College will be heading into town looking for a great game against Concordia. The home game will be held tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

BELOVED & BATTALION BIBLE STUDY

TO SIGN UP FOR A SMALL GROUP PLEASE EMAIL
MEN- Battalion@abbeywest.org | WOMEN- Beloved@abbeywest.org

abbey west

Saturday October 3rd

7:00-9:00pm in the Garden

Hot Cocoa Provided

Bring Mugs, Blankets & Chairs

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

The Urawa Japan Exchange Program

LINDSEY DELAS ALAS
STAFF WRITER

Concordia introduced a new opportunity for international students to visit America through the Urawa Japan exchange program. This international student exchange program is unique because it invites high school students from Urawa Lutheran School in Japan to visit campus for a duration of two weeks during the summer. During this time, the students participate in numerous activities and get a taste of what Concordia represents as well as a new experience in American culture. The goal is to both enrich the lives of the students involved and to encourage prospective students to apply to and attend Concordia.

The Urawa Japan exchange program is beneficial for Concordia because we are continuing to expand our relationships globally. Dr. Dan Waite, the Executive Director of Global Programs, and alumni of Concordia traveled to these schools to teach and invite students to participate in the exchange programs. Cheri Chan, Assistant Director for International Student Success, helped work with Urawa this summer, and runs the orientation and various events.

Along with our exchange programs, Waite has integrated over 34 countries through our other international partnerships. Many things attract international students to Concordia, but the hardest part for students are the holiday breaks when there is no class in session. Waite and his team have organized an orientation with ways of integrating students together. When international students come to Concordia, they arrive a week earlier for a separate orientation before the entire school's orientation, so that they know what to expect.

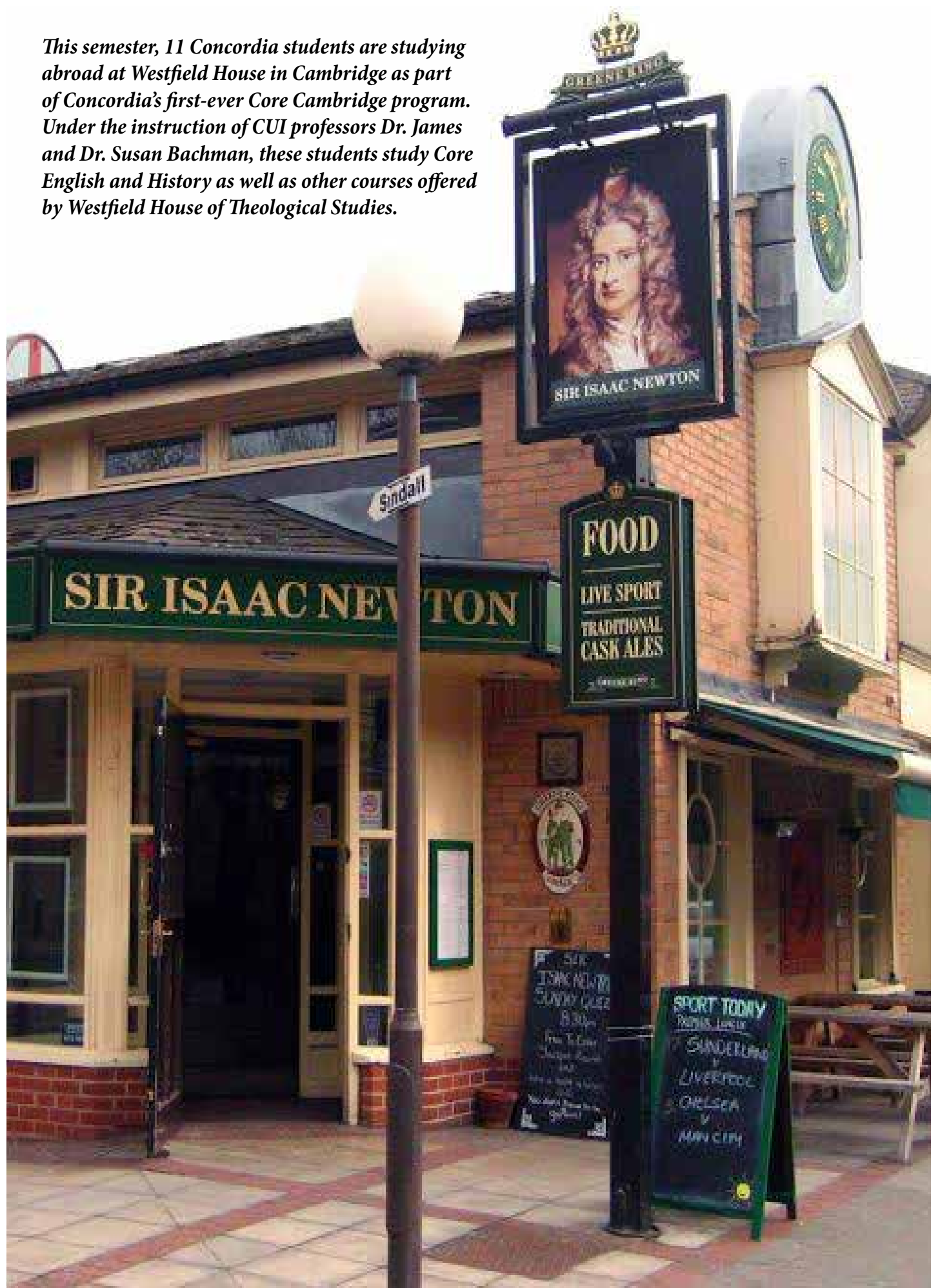
For students who have a language barrier, Concordia provides a program called English as a Second Language to prepare students for acceptance into college. The Academic Intensive English Program works through seven different levels of learning from beginner to advanced teaching so that students are able to participate in the classroom comfortably.

A second feature of our international programs is the Global Village, one of Concordia's Living Learning Communities. This part of campus is essential to international students because they are able to live interculturally with domestic students. This community is located within Concordia's Lambda and Theta residence halls and gives all students involved the opportunity to learn and grow together academically and personally. International and domestic students have the opportunity to talk about global issues, attend dinners, watch international film screenings and many other activities. Through the Global Village, students are able to make a home away from home to aid in their transition.

In the future, Waite and our Global Programs Department would like to invite the world to our campus and introduce our campus to the world.

Conquering Core in Cambridge

This semester, 11 Concordia students are studying abroad at Westfield House in Cambridge as part of Concordia's first-ever 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.



BRITTON NAAS
CONTRIBUTOR

Concordia offers many different study abroad programs. At first glance, studying at Cambridge may seem tame compared to the "foreignness" of cultures in the Around-the-World Semester. I chose to study at this world-class university for a variety of reasons, and I did not think the foreignness would have such an impact, but it has.

There are many differences between England and America, but the one that I have noticed the most is the difference in both the word choice and in the British pronunciation of the words. Because I do enjoy watching BBC, I figured I was prepared for the English terminology. I was wrong! After moving into the dorm on the first day, naturally, I needed to throw my trash away. I proceeded to ask where the trashcan was, and our lovely landlords informed me that it is called a dustbin, and trashmen are called dustmen.

The differences in vocab are not just limited to appliances or services. For example, the other week I was walking down the street trying to find something to eat. I noticed that the

local pub, The Sir Isaac Newton, was advertising their daily special: toad in the hole. I like to know what I am ordering at a restaurant, and a frog in a hole did not sound appetizing. After more inquiry though, I found out it is sausage cooked in Yorkshire pudding, which is bread. Once I was enlightened, suddenly this dish sounded delicious, but I am still a little leery of trying bangers and mash.

The Brits have different names for some types of stores, too. I will never forget during the first week the conversation I had when I decided it would be smart to find a drugstore. Since I was not familiar with the city yet, I decided to ask a local where one was. I asked him, "Where is the nearest pharmacy?" And he responded by saying, "The chemist shop is on your right." And I kept replying, like an American tourist, "Sir, I have already seen the lab where DNA was discovered. I am just trying to buy some ibuprofen!" Well, it turned out he actually was telling me where the pharmacy was. In the following week in my British life and culture class, our professor explained a pharmacy is called a chemist's shop.

These surprising differences, and nearly

every new adventure every day, have made my time here much richer. By studying in one city and spending the majority of my time in England, I have started to become familiar with the words and phrases. And unlike some programs where you get only a taste of the culture, my peers and I have been happily compelled to integrate into the culture. Granted, Cambridge draws in people from all over the world, but this adds to the amazing atmosphere of the city! It is like a melting pot where different dialects of English are spoken, but there is never a serious language barrier. In fact, last week I met two Irishmen who were working on their dissertations here. Because they both spoke English we were able to have a marvelous conversation regarding divinity. I have certainly found that the people here are very nice, and meeting and having conversations with them has been one of the best parts of studying abroad.

Everyone wants to explore the world of Harry Potter, but not everyone can dress up as Hogwarts students every day. Stay tuned because next time we will discuss when and why we wear black cloaks here at Westfield House in Cambridge.

The simplest joys make the greatest difference

A new art exhibit premieres in the John and Linda Friend Gallery

KARINA DIEZ
STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 9, the John and Linda Friend Art Gallery in Grimm Hall unveiled Diana Mordin's "The Simplest Joys," a collection comprised of the portraits of twenty children who managed to keep a smile on their faces throughout their battles with cancer. Growing up in an artistically-inclined family, visual expression has always

been a part of who Mordin is. Mordin currently volunteers at several pediatric cancer foundations and is passion-driven to raise awareness about childhood cancer.

The foundation for her dedication was formed when a member of Mordin's church congregation talked to her about Jessie Rees and Rees' journey with cancer. The church member asked Mordin to do a portrait of Rees, which is now the centerpiece of the exhibit. Despite her

setbacks, Rees' main concern was to "Never Ever Give Up" and to encourage other struggling children to embrace the same mind-set.

After her passing in 2012, Rees' parents, Erik and Stacey Rees, founded NEGU (Never Ever Give Up) to continue spreading their daughter's message. "Prior to moving to heaven, Jessie asked her mother and me if we could make sure every kid fighting cancer is encouraged to never ever give up and so that's what we do," Erik Rees

said. "These families feel limited, and if we can bring them doses of hope and joy in the midst of chaos, we see that as a really great thing."

According to Mordin, her relationship with the Rees family changed her path in life and gave it purpose. She does all she can to help fulfill Jessie's dreams with her artistic talents. "[Jessie] is the center of this exhibit to draw awareness to childhood cancer and to put a face [to it]," Erik Rees said.

Each of the children depicted in "The Simplest Joys" inspired Mordin individually with their positivity and determination in spite of their circumstances. "They give so much," Mordin said. "They're unstoppable. Whether they're here on earth or in heaven, they'll always be part of my life."

"These families feel limited, and if we can bring them doses of hope and joy in the midst of chaos, we see that as a really great thing."

Cade Spinello, featured in the exhibit, was diagnosed just before Jessie, and has looked to NEGU for support throughout his battle. Michael Spinello, Cade's father, said, "[Mordin's] amazing artistic talent has been a source of encouragement for Cade, as she has created several portraits of him as well as cartoon superhero illustrations featuring 'Super Cade.'" The children give Mordin their endless amounts of happiness, and in return Mordin gives back through her artwork.

Mordin's hope for the exhibit is to not only shed light on pediatric cancer, but to celebrate life and see the simplest joys, which are often overlooked. "These kids are not just statistics. These are people's children. They all have a story," said Mordin.

"The Simplest Things" Art Exhibit runs in Grimm Hall from Sept. 9 – Oct. 7.



A digital painting from the exhibit entitled Jessica Joy Rees -- painted by Diana Mordin

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

SUNDAY LEAGUE

SEPT. 13 TRAINING CAMP
LEARN THE RULES AND START LEAGUE PLAY

SEPT. 20 LEAGUE DAY 2
COMPETE AGAINST OTHER TEAMS.

SEPT. 27 LEAGUE DAY 3
COMPETE AGAINST OTHER TEAMS.

SPONSORED BY
CUI
HYDRA-ART

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19
ORANGE COUNTY COASTKEEPER BEACH CLEANUP
Join us in cleaning up the Corona Del Mar Beach! We will meet in the CSLD at 8:15am and leave CUI at 8:30am.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22
AMERICAN FAMILY HOUSING SERVICE PROJECT
Join us at American Family Housing to serve a meal and do crafts with the families and children living there.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27
ORANGEWOOD FOSTER FAMILY PICNIC
Students will spend the day running carnival game booths for Orangewood's foster families!

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILDING PROJECT
Have you ever wondered what goes into building a house? Come join Concordia Cares in this great opportunity to help in the building and construction of homes for people in need. Food will be provided!

Sign up in the CSLD or email Concordia.Cares@cui.edu.

What's new on Netflix?

“Demetri Martin Live (at the Time)”

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

COURTNEY HENTZ
LAYOUT EDITOR

I have to make a quick confession before I begin... I love Aziz Ansari. I have watched his shows on Netflix to the point of memorization. I love to bring Aziz's quotes into conversations whenever possible, and unfortunately for my friends, I have begun to tell my own jokes in his strange nasally voice (not intentional, it just happens). I've been waiting and waiting for new Aziz material for the longest time, so when his book came out, I was super excited to read it. But when the book was finished and the shows were memorized, I was left without a comedian to watch in my spare time (unfortunately one can grow weary of even the best planned comedy). Lately, I've found myself constantly searching Netflix for a new favorite.

As a consequence, I endured many poor comedians. I was disappointed by the raunchy comedy sketches performed by some of the women who apparently thought the only way to make it in comedy was to say the most inappropriate of jokes (emphasis on “some” here, or unfortunately in my recent search, the vast majority). I was disappointed by the weird shows that were so weird that they were supposed to be funny— but they weren't. Did anyone else watch Bo Burnham's show so appropriately titled, “What?” I couldn't stop watching it, but for all the wrong reasons. And I must say I was VERY disappointed with Demetri Martin's newest Netflix special.

Oh, you thought I meant because it was bad? I can see how that would be misleading. No, it was AMAZING! I laughed at just about every well thought out, witty one-liner. I even watched it again and still thought the jokes were just as good. Heck, I might even watch it a third time (watch out)! So why was I disap-



pointed? It's simple -- I selfishly didn't want to write a good review. Good reviews are harder to write and generally not as interesting. But, Martin deserves a good review because his show was fantastic— so here it is.

For those of you unfamiliar with Martin's style, he typically focuses on quick jokes with zero segues (respect!) accompanied by a guitar

and harmonica. Martin's jokes featured a lot of mundane topics that you never realized were so funny (like the aerodynamics of cracks). He also utilizes wordplay in some very funny jokes about signage: “bridge may be wet,” “bridge may not be wet,” “bridge probably not wet.” I know it doesn't sound funny right now but just wait until you hear him tell it.

The special was great and I don't want to spoil any more of it for you. So go get your homework done, set aside some time for your Netflix to load on CUI Secure (wouldn't want to use Open— that's unsafe) and get to watching a fantastically hilarious, witty comedy special. Finally there is something new to watch on Netflix that isn't Aziz Ansari.

Two thumbs up for “Two Rooms”

AUSTIN WEBSTER
STAFF WRITER

Sept. 11 is not a day for celebration, but rather a day to mourn and respect the innocent lives lost in the terrible attacks 14 years ago. We respect those who lost their lives in New York and Pennsylvania, as well as the lives of brave firefighters, police officers and medics who put their lives on the line in order to save others. We often read names on memorial plaques, but on days like Sept. 11, we stop, and we remember that those names were actual people -- our mothers and fathers, our sisters and brothers. Lori Siekmann, Director of Theater Activities, helps audiences pause and truly reflect on the past through the play “Two Rooms.” This historical fiction piece briefly touches on the troubles with terrorism between the United States and the Middle East in the 1980s. Sept. 11 seemed like a fitting night to premiere director Lori Siekmann's version of “Two Rooms.”

“Two Rooms” specifically follows four Americans who struggle with the kidnapping crisis in Beirut, Lebanon. Michael Wells, played by Christian Rowe, immediately draws the attention towards the stage, handcuffed, moaning and groaning in pain as audience members make their way in to find their seats.

The actors flip back and forth between two rooms -- the cell where Wells is held captive and his home office in Washington D.C. Wells' wife, Lainie Wells (Kyleigh Hoye, sophomore) is often visited by reporter Walker Harris (Kendall Davis, senior) and a government official Ellen Van Oss (Jaclyn Pennington, senior). Conversations between the three take place in Michael Wells' office, which Lainie has stripped of her husband's belongings and painted in a manner to represent the place of her husband's captivity.

While her husband is held captive in Beirut, Lainie is held captive within herself, grieving, with her convincing cries, and trying to find ways to rescue him. She is constantly pulled back and forth between Harris and Van Oss on what her role in this situation should be. Davis plays an outstanding role of a reporter. As Har-

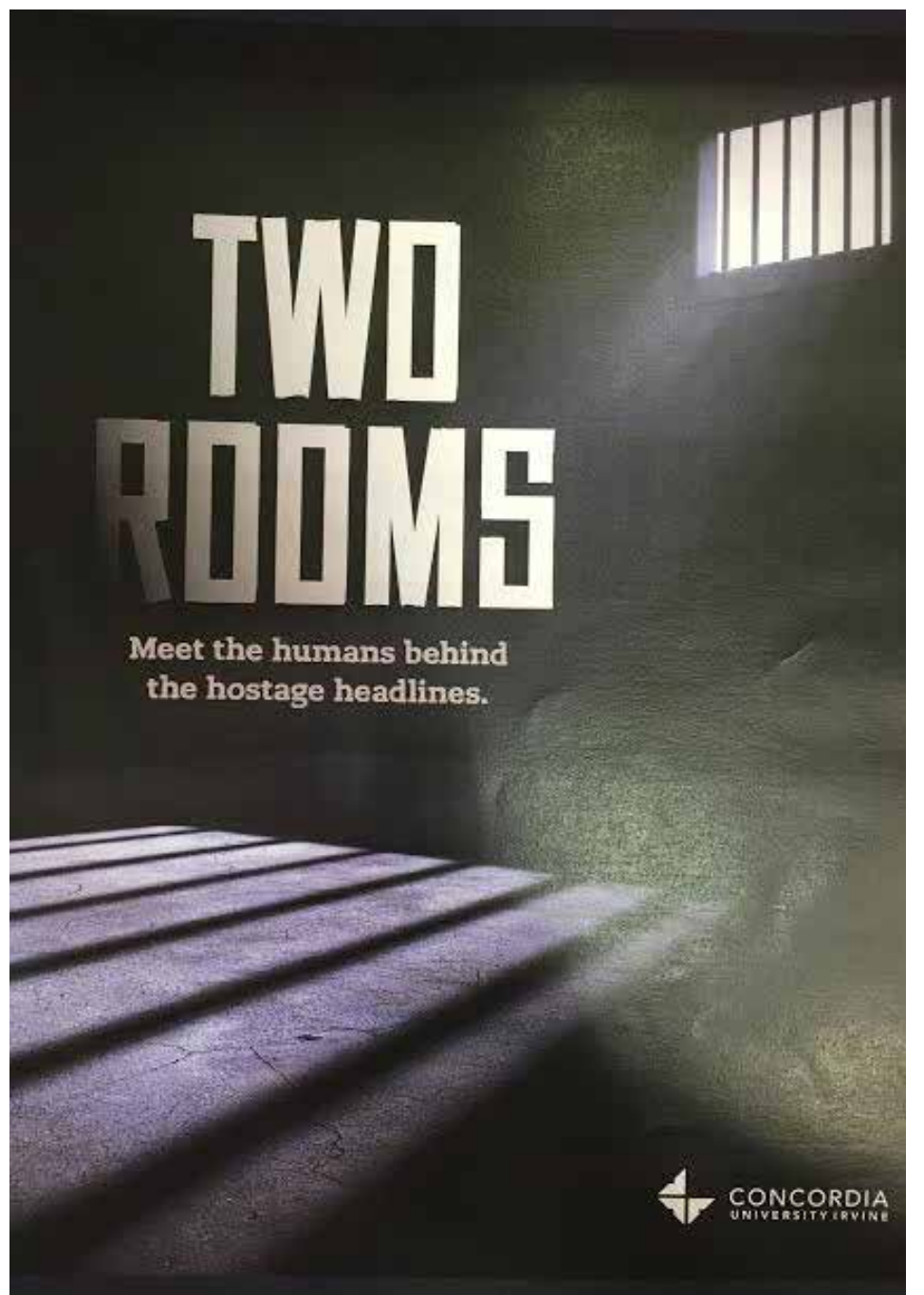
ris, Davis is soft-spoken and charming, trying to win Lainie with his comforting voice, kind words and loving actions. Conversely, Pennington grabs the attention of the audience with her stern voice and sharp posture. As Van Oss, Pennington is forceful in her body language as she controlled the stage like an authoritative figure.

I greatly appreciated the talent of each individual. Though it was only a four-person play, their words and actions made me believe there were more, as I pictured other reporters, the others held in captivity and the guards who beat Wells.

This historical fiction piece briefly touches on the troubles with terrorism between the United States and the Middle East in the 1980s.

Your imagination is key when watching this play, making you feel like the play is your own. You have your own interpretation on what the rooms looked like, where they lived and the dirtiness of the cell. This imagination is engaged by the skill of the actors. Rowe especially demonstrates great acting skill when expressing his pain as he limps and grunts through the words he wrote to his wife. You can feel the love he has for her as he smiles and laughs at his thoughts though he is held in captivity. Hoye's cries and pitch snatches the attention, making you understand her pain and heartbreak over her husband's captivity.

It is not too late to appreciate the works of Concordia University's Theatre Department. “Two Rooms” will continue with performances today and tomorrow at 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday at 2 p.m. You don't want to miss out on such an emotional performance.



Free, Fun Fashion

SAMANTHA PALMER
STAFF WRITER

Style Week OC is the perfect opportunity for everyone to get a closer look at the hottest trends from some of the biggest names in fashion. On Sept. 10, Irvine Company Retail Properties kicked off the start of this premier event at Fashion Island in Newport Beach. Style Week OC is an exclusive showcase of top brands along with local up-and-comers from retailers in Orange County. Easther Liu is the Chief Marketing Officer for Irvine Company, and talks highly of the event. “We’re honored to host this great event for the eighth year and to be able to bring the community together to enjoy the art and craft of fashion,” Liu said.

On Sept. 10, Neiman Marcus had its runway show featuring their fall trends. Marissa Perry, an Orange County native who works at Sephora Health and Beauty, attended for the first time. “I honestly just saw the event on Facebook. I have always been interested in fashion, and when I saw that it was free, I knew I had to come check it out,” Perry said. Perry also went on Friday to take a look at the Contemporary Show, which included retailers Neiman Marcus, Bloomingdale’s, Nordstrom, Anthropologie, Elie Tahari, Rebecca Taylor and Vince Camuto.

“We’re honored to host this great event for the eighth year and to be able to bring the community together to enjoy the art and craft of fashion.”

The headlining event of the weekend was the runway design competition on Sat., Sept. 12. Fashion designer and TV personality Nick Verreos hosted. Each year the host that is chosen has a connection to the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandise (FIDM), and Verreos is a FIDM graduate. Verreos has an extensive fashion resume that includes being a contestant on Lifetime’s Project Runway and also creating his own clothing line, Nikolaki.

The presenting sponsor, Celebrity Cruises, challenged the FIDM graduates to create looks inspired by resort-wear. Celebrity Cruises wanted fashion that evoked “Modern Luxury,” and Cynthia Rose, Celebrity Cruises Regional Marketing Manager, could tell the students were excited for the contest. “Our brand is perfectly aligned with the innovative art and design that these shows present and the FIDM students seem truly inspired to have our on-board ‘Modern Luxury’ spaces and enticing cruise destinations as their muse this year,” Rose said.

Style Week OC continues tonight, Sept. 18 at the Irvine Spectrum in the Giant Wheel Court. Tonight will be a celebration of the Irvine Spectrum’s 20th anniversary with a unique runway show featuring iconic fashion brands including Tilly’s, Active Ride and more. Tomorrow between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. there will be an opportunity for customers to win a \$1,000 shopping spree at Charming Charlie’s, LOFT, Off Broadway, Stein Mart, and White House Black Market. Saturday night at 7 p.m., Nick Verreos will again be hosting the Collection Show with retailers Nordstrom, Macy’s, bebe, Francesca’s Collection Kaitlyn, Max Studio, Tommy Bahama, White House Black Market, and Windsor. All events are open to the public with limited seating available on a first-come, first-served basis.

“The Happiest Place on Earth” just got *SPOOKIER*



Photo Credit: Kaitlyn Miller

KAITLYN MILLER
STAFF WRITER

Halloween time at Disneyland Resort has just begun, featuring many Halloween surprises, like special themed attractions, merchandise, food and much more.

Disneyland transforms some of its most iconic attractions into Halloween masterpieces. The most popular Halloween attraction is “Haunted Mansion Holiday,” because the original ride is completely transformed into Tim Burton’s “The Nightmare Before Christmas.” Disneyland Cast Member Breanna said, “Haunted Mansion is perfect for Halloween and Christmas time because of Jack Skellington.” The attraction follows Jack Skellington and his friends as they take over Halloween Town. The ride is full of fun Halloween music and even the wafting scent of gingerbread.

“Space Mountain” is reimagined as a crazy

ghost encounter renamed “Space Mountain Ghost Galaxy.” Guests are taken through the ride and experience creepy sounds while being followed by a scary ghost.

During this season, Disneyland sells special merchandise including glow-in-the-dark shirts, Halloween-themed Mickey Ears, and trick-or-treat bags. There are gifts for all ages, from a costumed toddler to a ghoulish adult. Disneyland also has Halloween-themed treats to eat. Their cookies, cupcakes, candy apples, and Rice Krispies Treats are all decorated to get people in the spirit of this holiday. They even have a Haunted Mansion-themed cake. For those looking to take Halloween beyond dessert, Tomorrowland has a cheeseburger that is served with french fries covered in a spooky blue parmesan ranch.

After visitors have been on the scariest rides, purchased seasonal shirts and had a yummy treat, they can meet the most popular Disney-

land characters. These include Mickey, Minnie, Donald, Goofy and Pluto, all dressed up in their favorite Halloween costumes.

Trent Williams, who has been a Disneyland pass holder for 10 years, said he loves being in the park during Halloween. “My favorite part is Donald and his pumpkin costume because it reminds me of when I was kid,” Williams said.

Disneyland has something for everyone to enjoy. Those without passes can also enjoy the fun though a special event called Mickey’s Halloween Party on select nights. Guests are allowed to enter the park around 3 p.m. and stay until the park closes. The night includes special trick-or-treat stations, picture opportunities with Disney villains, and a special Halloween firework show. Tickets are limited, so make sure to purchase them at disneyland.com.

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