



THE CONCORDIA COURIER

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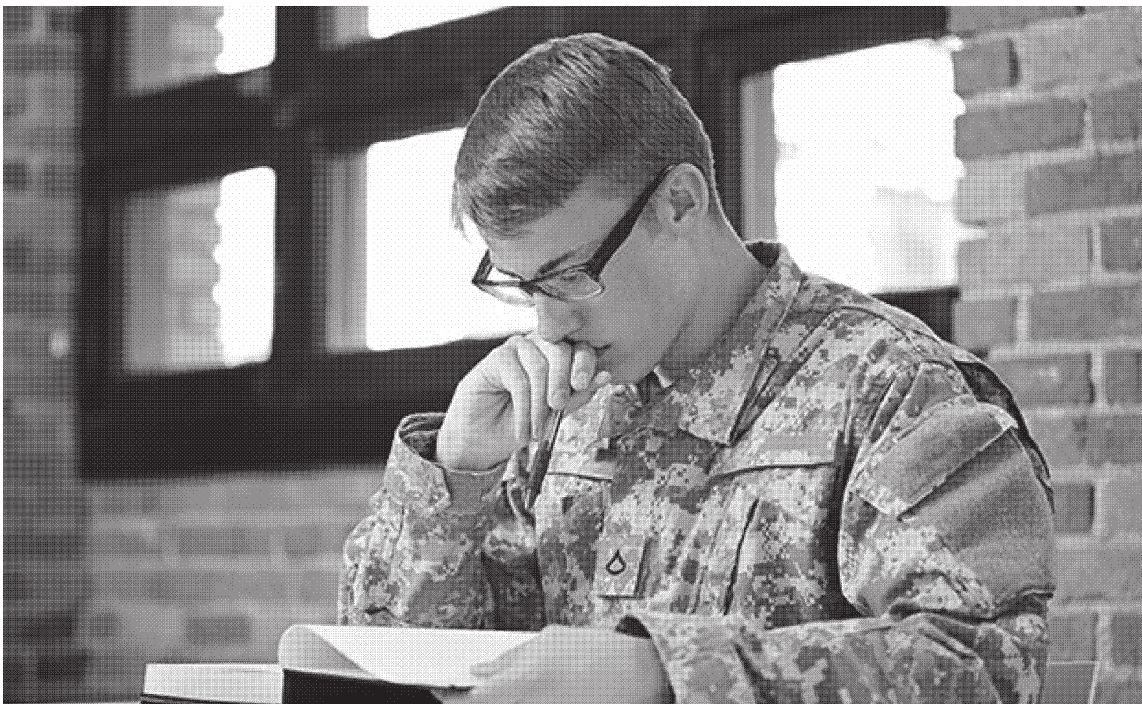
Volume 11, Issue 9 Concordia University Irvine Friday, February 3, 2017

Concordia awarded Military Friendly® school for fourth consecutive year

GREG NORMANN
STAFF WRITER

Concordia University received its fourth consecutive Military Friendly® distinction from Victory Media. This distinction is given to schools and employers which focus on investing in educating, employing and engaging military members and veterans.

One of the many reasons Concordia attracts veterans is its distinction of being a Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program (Yellow Ribbon Program). This program allows veterans to attend private universities and graduate programs which charge tuition higher than the GI Bill's tuition cap. Yellow Ribbon Programs offer veterans-only scholarships which the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs match dollar for dollar. Concordia's participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program allows veterans to affordably attend the university. This in itself makes Concordia highly sought after by



Courtesy of impactingourfuture.com

veterans and their dependents. Freshman Erica Asauskas, Marine Corps veteran, said, "There is no way I would have come to Concordia if it wasn't for their participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program." Before attending Concordia, Asauskas studied at the University of Maryland Asia Campus while on active duty in Japan. "Transitioning from a

military lifestyle back to a full time student was easily the biggest hurdle for me," said Asauskas. "The staff here at Concordia made that transition as smooth as possible for me. The staff here really truly cares about its students and has gone above and beyond to make me feel as comfortable as possible." While still in the Reserve, Asauskas still has a commit-

ment to the Marine Corps. "My professors understand that I am in the Reserve and do everything to accommodate me so that I can still be a successful student as well as fulfilling my obligation to my country," said Asauskas. Moving from the military to a civilian job or university can be tough for many veterans. Concordia's Veterans

Services Office (VSO) and Steve Leader, Veterans Resource Center Manager, are dedicated to students transitioning from the military to higher education. The VSO offers support for veterans in their academics, finances, professional and personal lives. Marine Corps veteran, Justin To, said "The transition has been easy for me...The best part about being a veteran at Concordia is the tight community and the chances to develop close friendships throughout." To ultimately select Concordia because it is a Christian school with a good reputation, but the Yellow Ribbon Program and the friendly staff sealed the deal for him. Concordia has worked to honor its veterans, their contributions to our country and their transition to higher education. With the Yellow Ribbon Program, Military Friendly® distinction and the dedicated staff, Concordia hopes to give its veterans every opportunity to succeed.



Courtesy of CUI Veterans Services

Meet your ASCUI Candidates

JESSICA JAMES
ASCUI SECRETARY

ASCUI President Candidate(s):

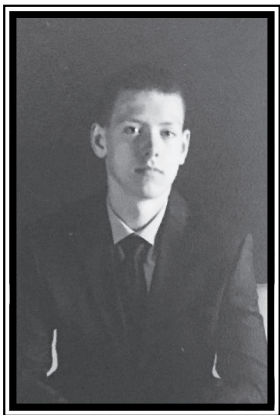


Michael Hammerle, junior, has three years of student leadership experience from serving in Fusion, Senate, as a Resident Assistant and working in the Admissions office. He also had the experience completing the Around- the-World Semester^(R), and hopes to make his last year at CUI a year of service. Hammerle said, “I may be a grandpa at heart, but nothing stops me from helping others and you!”



Current ASCUI Secretary, sophomore, Jessica James, is running for ASCUI President. James has served as a Concordia Senator and has been part of chapel bells which included touring Austria with Donne di Canto. As part of a Beloved group, she hopes to help the student body find refuge in Christ. As part of the executive board, she has enjoyed planning Concordia Christmas and Breast Cancer Awareness month. When not working for ASCUI, James can be found working at Chick-fil-A or perusing Pinterest.

ASCUI Club Commissioner Candidate(s):



Ryan Van Dusen, junior, has 5 semesters of experience in ASCUI Senate. He also has experience as part of LEAD Fusion, he served as ASCUI Treasurer, and has membership and leadership experience in various clubs and organizations. Van Dusen spent the previous fall semester abroad as part of the Around-the-World^(R) team.

ASCUI Secretary Candidate(s):



Sophomore Maddy Haase grew up in Washington and is running for ASCUI Secretary. She loves being outdoors and hanging out with friends and family. This past fall, Haase was part of the Around- the-World^(R). Haase said, “I would be honored to take on the role and serve Concordia.”

ASCUI Vice President Candidate(s):



Junior Claire Brainard is running for ASCUI Vice President. She is from Oklahoma and really enjoys mac n’ cheese and hiking. With experience as an ASCUI Senator and LEAD Student Activities Coordinator, Brainard is passionate about making sure everyone’s voice is heard.



Nathan Smith, sophomore, likes adventure, traveling, and is a self- proclaimed nerd. He recently returned from studying abroad in Scotland. His two favorite things are Jesus and Star Wars, and he is “always willing to talk about either!”

ASCUI Communications Director Candidate(s):



Freshman Noah Eschmann is running to be the 2017-18 ASCUI Communications Director. He is currently involved in ASCUI Senate, Screaming Eagles, and campus ministry. Over the years, Eschmann has cultivated a passion for leadership. “After a ton of authoritative positions in high school, I feel that I have been called to major in Christian Education and Leadership here at Concordia.” Eschmann would be honored to serve on the ASCUI Executive Board and will strive to put Christ first, and be a voice for all students!

ASCUI Treasurer Candidate(s):



Isabelle Upchurch, freshman, is running for ASCUI Treasurer for the 2017-2018 school year. She is from Wake Forest, North Carolina and will be a sophomore in the upcoming year. This past year, she has enjoyed being a part of many groups on campus, including ASCUI Senate, Donne Di Canto and campus ministry events and groups. She currently works in the Advancement Office on campus. Before coming to CUI, Upchurch was the student body President her senior year of high school. Upchurch stated, “I look forward to all that God has planned for me, which hopefully includes becoming your next ASCUI Treasurer.”

ASCUI Candidates are subject to change

Voting for your 2017-2018 Executive Board will take place on Feb. 9 and 10 outside the Student Union from 11 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.

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1530 Concordia West, Irvine CA, 92612
Delta Lounge
final.courier@gmail.com
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First Person: Athletes work harder, play hardest

EMILY CHAN
STAFF WRITER

There are many people who have what others describe as a “work hard, play hard” attitude. It could be working hard on a project, but still having fun with your group or it could be working on a newspaper and completing it with a sense of pride. Each of those activities has one thing in common, a sense of motivation. Athletes are the first to come to mind when hearing the statement “work hard, play hard, yet if they didn’t have a sense of motivation or the drive to keep up high standards, where would that leave them?

No person wants to be labeled as normal or conforming to a standard, usual, typical or expected. There is no such thing as a normal athlete or a normal competition. Each competition is vastly different from the others and the preparation, scores, times, excitement and countless other

things. Not only that but each athlete puts in their all. None of them want to be labeled mediocre.

Personally, as a non-athlete, I find athletes extremely intriguing. I find myself watching them because they seem to defy nature. I have a lot of respect for them due to their dedication to their sport, which is shown through how many hours a week they have to practice, combined with their determination to succeed academically. Athletes train hard almost every day to be in top shape and to be able to compete. I am not the only one who sees athletes this way. “I think that it is amazing that they are able to have an academic life, athletic life and a social life,” said sophomore Cierra Everitt. “I used to dance and personally, I could not see myself on a dance team while keeping my grades up and spending time with my friends.” Student athletes have to practice both academically and

physically and without doing so they will falter in both their sport and academic career. Watching them keep their heads above water is truly a feat to behold.

In chapel two weeks ago, the speaker, Alfonso Espinosa mentioned an athlete by the name of Ted Williams. I had never heard of Ted Williams until that day but what Espinosa said really hit home. “Ted Williams, the great baseball player of the 20th century. He was known as a natural. His hitting was renowned...” said Espinosa. Yet when people saw him play, they called him a “natural” and kept on saying that he was “born that way.” He was not; he constantly practiced day and night to be the best he could become. That is what made him a “natural,” all of that hard work and practice. Ted Williams raised the bar and kept it there for himself. He wanted to be better and in doing so became one of the best.

Freshman baseball player, Haloa Dudoit, related to this statement, “People tend to watch sports for entertainment so what they see is a gist of everything that goes on. However, there is more behind it in ways such as practice, people don’t watch practices so that is why they assume that it is ‘natural talent’ or that the person was ‘born that way,’” said Dudoit. “Just by seeing others that are better than you is motivation to push yourself to be better. It helps to sooth the fire to do the extra things and also to feel accomplished; that helps me try to be the best because I don’t want to do stuff just to do it, I want a reason or an outcome.”

I love how athletes hold themselves to an elevated level of achievement and are constantly working and playing hard. That is what got them here in the first place. Katrina Johnson, freshman, explained how her work ethic started at the age of thirteen. “At

that age, I wasn’t swimming as well as I wanted to. I decided then that I was not going to do that again, so I worked harder to be the best and constantly focused on technique. In high school, when I realized that my times qualified for what Concordia was looking for, I decided to call them and now here I am.” Athletics brings in people from all over the country and abroad to compete in the sport they love. I guess you could say that Concordia students have changed the phrase that we all know, they don’t work hard play hard, they work harder and play their hardest. Without those high standards, we would not be NCAA Division II material. Without the work hard, play hard attitudes we would not have teams like Women’s Volleyball as the PacWest Champions. We would not be Concordia.

Men’s Volleyball reflects on season after long stretch of home games

FRANKIE RUBINO
STAFF WRITER

After a stretch of five consecutive home games, the Men’s Volleyball team is preparing to compete out on the road starting Feb. 10 in Merced. The Eagles currently hold a winning record and are hoping to continue with that record as they finish their season.

As the Eagles continue their season, they look forward to taking lessons from the matches that they have already played and building upon them in their upcoming games. Eagles’ Head Coach Shawn Patchell said that his biggest take away from the games the team has played so far is that the team is “right there” with nice leads over top teams like Brigham Young University (BYU) and University of Southern California (USC) earlier in the season. He knows that they are able to hold their own against any competitor and is focused on finishing matches strong and playing the way they practice. He is excited for their upcoming competition, especially to play USC again in March, as well as to continue to make this a special season for the graduating senior class.

With three senior captains, AJ Hammer, Ryan Anselmo and Joseph Pillon leading the charge, the upperclassmen have had an important role of influencing the culture of this team. Captain AJ Hammer, who has played on the team for three years after transferring from Irvine Valley Col-



Courtesy of CUI Eagles website

lege, said that after several talented players graduated last year, the upperclassmen have stepped into a new role as leaders. They have continued to push the team to realize their utmost potential. Patchell notes that they have a strong junior class as well. Juniors like Jonathan Predney, an outside hitter, proves himself to be a steady and consistent asset in their offensive game. The upperclassmen have a strong presence on the team and help to lead and shape the strong work ethic that shows in each match.

Although the Eagle leaders and strong players will graduate in May, the future of this team is bright. There is a large amount of optimism for the underclassmen on the team. Patchell showed a great deal of excitement for his sophomore setters Chandler Gibb, Isaiah Kaaa, Cristian Rodriguez and his freshman redshirts and looks forward to playing them in the MPSF conference next year. Se-

nior Ryan Murphy, a libero who has been on the team for the last four years said that there is also a great deal of potential in the underclassmen. He looks forward to continuing to see these young players develop. “Hunter Howell, Alec Krilis, Raymond Barsemian and Chandler Gibb all have All American potential,” said Murphy. There is a strong group of leaders looking to continue the culture that has developed within this team for years to come.

The Eagles are battling some good competition for the remainder of the season and are looking forward to the future ahead of their program. Watch the Men’s Volleyball team tonight compete against Princeton at 7 p.m. or in a match tomorrow against Grand Canyon University at 12 p.m. The Men’s Volleyball schedule and roster, as well as game recaps can be found on the Concordia Athletics’ Website at www.cuieagles.com.

Concordia Men and Women’s basketball game

JAKE PENSE
STAFF WRITER

CU Arena rocked with excitement for Homecoming Weekend and the Men’s and Women’s Basketball Teams did not disappoint: both teams came away with convincing wins Saturday night against Chaminade University. The women’s team won by 11 points and the men’s team followed that up with a 14-point victory. Spectator Carlos Castro said, “The atmosphere was incredible for both games.” The gym was completely full and the fans were full of anticipation and energy from the opening tip.

The women’s team dominated the game from the start. Once they took the lead five to three in the first quarter they never looked back—they held onto the lead for the rest of the game. Freshman Ugochi Anudokem lead the Eagles in scoring with 11 points; not only did she shoot 66 percent from the field, she also went 100 percent from the charity line.

Junior Montana Walters also had a very impressive game and was one point shy of a double-double. She did a great job of controlling the tempo of the game and made sure the Eagles got the best possible shot each time they came down the court. Not to be outdone, Junior Annie Studdert had an impressive game as well. She had eight points to go along with eight rebounds. She pulled down two big offensive rebounds that helped wear down Chaminade. While these students stood out, the 70-59 win

occurred because of the team’s effort. Now they hold a six and six record in conference play.

Unlike the women’s team, the men’s team got off to a slow start. It took a little bit for them to find their rhythm, but by the end, the team’s offense was simply unstoppable. Assistant Coach Stephen Ferry said, “What turned the game around for us was our ability to get defensive stops, and good defense translates to good offense.”

The Eagles were led by an outstanding performance from their backcourt. Guards Justin Davis, senior, and Tad Dufelmeier, junior, both played wonderfully on both sides of the court. Davis, known for his defensive ability, lead the team in points and did almost all of his damage from behind the arc. He went a perfect five-for-five from the three-point line and finished the game with 17 points. After the game Davis said, “That was the best shooting performance of my basketball career.” Another standout performance came from Case Bruton, senior, he filled up the box score with 15 points, five assists, seven rebounds, and added two steals to the team’s total of nine. He shot 75 percent from three-point range. The Eagles were flying around the gym on both ends of the court in their impressive performance. With the overwhelming display of three-point shooting, the crowd had to be held back on many occasions because of how electric the energy was.

The Eagles are back in action against Hawaii Pacific University on Feb. 4 at the CU Arena.

Student Leadership applications for 2017-2018 available now

BRADEN DELANNOY
STAFF WRITER

What are these student leadership groups?

Concordia offers students opportunities to lead and contribute to student life through Student Leadership. For the 2017-2018 school year, Student Leadership applications are due Feb. 10 at 4:30 p.m.

Student leadership can provide amazing opportunities to get to know yourself and others. Senior Catherine Foster, ASCUI Vice President, said "Through my four years in student leadership, I really grew to understand my own strengths and weaknesses. I feel immensely prepared for life after college because of leadership." Similarly, junior Michael Hammerle, former RA and ASCUI Senator, said "I have really enjoyed getting to know a variety of people that I wouldn't have normally met outside of my involvement in leadership. I genuinely met some of my best friends in these programs."

Leadership Education and Development (LEAD)

is a student leadership group that focuses on campus-wide programming. LEAD is split into several groups with a few student coordinators.

Associated Students of Concordia University Irvine (ASCUI)

consisting of an Executive Board and a team of Senators, seeks to bring the student body voice and concerns to the administration. Their goal is to work to enact change on campus. The deadline for applications for this group has passed; however, cast your vote for who serves on the the 2017-2018 ASCUI Executive Board on Feb. 9 and 10 during the lunch hours outside the Caf.

Diversity Awareness

seeks to bring understanding to the various populations on campus.

Residential Education & Services (RES)

focuses on providing the best environment possible for those living in the dorms. Each hall within the dorms has a Resident Assistant (RA) who provides for the safety and well-being of the living environment. This is a paid position that lasts throughout the school year.

Commuter Outreach

works with student commuters and bridging the gap between this population and the rest of Concordia.

Peer Advising Leader (PAL)

falls under the First Year Experience Office this position seeks to provide the best transition into Concordia as possible for both transfer students and new freshmen through mentoring, events and SOAR. This is an unpaid role that lasts through the first semester of the school year.

Concordia Cares

works with local non-profit organizations and connects students with opportunities to serve.

Student Activities

plans and executes large budget events such as the Homecoming Dance, Rock the Amp, Kindergarten Day, Beach Bash, among others.

Peer Health Educators

seek to provide students with education about how to live healthier, more fulfilled lives. Each coordinator position lasts throughout the school year and is a paid position with approximately 10 hours per week.

abbey west

Concordia's campus ministry, has several opportunities to be a part of the ministry team. There are four worship coordinator positions, each focusing in either SHOUT, Sunday (off-site services), Sunday Night (Source—on campus) or Weekday Morning Chapel services. The Tech Ministry Coordinator focuses on the integration of technology and the various ministries across campus. The Nurture Coordinators seek to care for the entire campus through providing things like Bible studies and prayer ministry. The Service and Witness Coordinators seek to provide possibilities for students to share their faith through witness and service opportunities both on and off campus. The Marketing and Communications Coordinator seeks to market the abbey west ministries and events. Just like LEAD positions, each coordinator position lasts throughout the school year and is a paid position with approximately 10 hours per week.

Fusion

engages with freshman and provides them with chances to learn more about leadership opportunities.

Intramurals

plans and executes the various Intramural sports including volleyball, basketball, flag football and soccer.

Applications and more information for any of these groups can be found online at <http://www.cui.edu/en-us/studentlife/Student-Leadership>

Disneyland's Main Street Electrical Parade returns home

HOLLY SPENCER
STAFF WRITER

The Main Street Electrical Parade returned to Disneyland on Jan. 20 to bring a new generation of viewers the joy of this classic parade. Originally premiering back in 1972, this parade has awed millions of people throughout the generations and has returned home once more. "This parade has returned to Disneyland to honor where it began," said Sam Benson, performer and cast member at Disneyland.

This parade is dazzling from start to finish with a total of 600,000 lights and 22 floats. It

begins with Mickey, Minnie and Goofy in a train, leading the parade out. Seven films are represented in the parade, which include Cinderella in her carriage, Alice atop a mushroom and Pete with his Dragon, Elliot. There are 27 traditional characters from some of the original Disney movies including Tinkerbell, Pinocchio and Snow White. "My favorite part is watching Cinderella in her carriage. I remember seeing it as a child and it truly makes the movie come to life right in front of my eyes all over again," said Kristi Wilhelm, cast member and performer at Disneyland. At 118

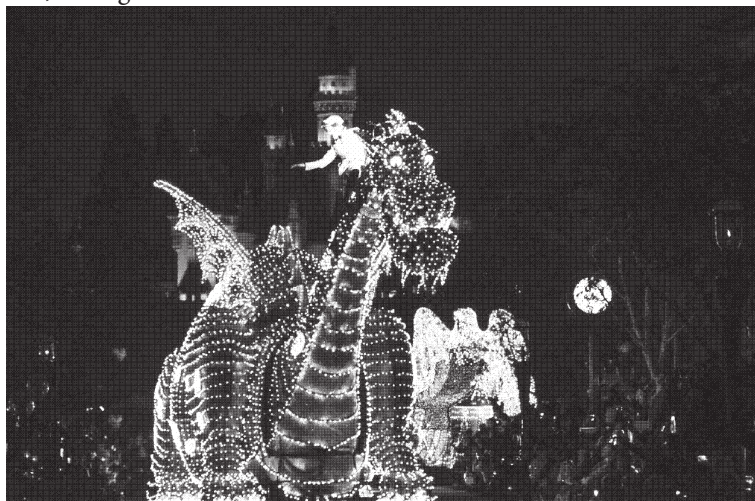
feet long, the last float of the parade is an American flag entitled "To Honor America," complete with saluting dancers. "There is something in this parade for all ages—classic characters, catchy and fun music...and a dragon!" said Taylor Lane, performer and cast member at Disneyland.

The original development team of this parade thought it was a brilliant idea to have electronic music for an electrical parade. Jack Wagner, Disneyland's official park announcer for many years, discovered a song entitled "Baroque Hoedown," which now makes up that catchy chorus that many know and love. From there, Paul Beaver, widely known for his contributions to early popular electronic music, turned all of the Disney songs into electronic form. Aside from music selection, Wagner had one more responsibility—he provided the famous announcement in his most vocoded voice. "In thousands of sparkling lights and electro-synthe-magnetic musical sounds, the Main Street Electrical Parade," said Wagner. This same announcement is still heard every night.

Over the course of the parade's history, five Disney parks have shown versions of the Main Street Electrical Parade including Disneyland, Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom Park, Disney California Adventure Park, Tokyo Disneyland and Disneyland Paris. "It is an honor to be a part of a 45-year legacy," said Analisa Sabo, cast member and performer at Disneyland. At the dawn of a technological lift-off, this parade was the first of its kind. These bright moving floats were unheard of un-

til the magic of Disney brought them to life in 1972. Today, technology has advanced greatly, and yet the Electrical Parade has withstood the test of time.

For more information on ticket prices, annual passes and parade times, please visit Disneyland.com. Take the opportunity to marvel at this timeless masterpiece while you still can. Performances are running every day until June 18, 2017, when the Main Street Electrical Parade will take its final run down Main Street USA.



Elliot and Pete from Pete's Dragon followed by the "To Honor America" float. Photo provided by: @frantasmic_



The first float of the Main Street Electrical Parade Photo provided by: @Abelofavalor

DJ's & Clichés: a look into Cambridge nightlife

Semester by semester, Concordia students study abroad at Westfield House as part of Concordia's Enduring Questions and Ideas (Q&I Core) Cambridge program. Under the instruction of CUI professors Dr. James and Dr. Susan Bachman, these students study English and History, attend Cambridge University lectures, and take part in other required and elective courses offered by Westfield House of Theological Studies. Each week, the students or professors share with Courier readers some of their favorite observations about life and study in England.

MEL MALANOWSKI

On a typical Friday night, you would probably find me in my pajamas recovering from my busy week, watching one too many episodes of "Shameless" on Netflix. However, this past Friday night, I went where no introvert has gone before: Lola Lo's Night Club.

Recommended by one of my favorite professors here in Cambridge, Dr. Humann, Lola Lo is a tiki-themed dance club that specializes in pricey piña coladas and early 2000's top hits. On this adventure, I brought along two other Concordia students,

covered that in comparison to a Los Angeles nightclub, there are some distinct differences.

First, I noticed the music is nowhere near the same. Apparently British clubs aren't allowed to play explicit content. When trying to request a song to the DJ, he respectfully denied my request due to Lola Lo's policy. The girls and I spent the rest of the night dancing to one too many techno songs in a language we didn't recognize. Occasionally, the DJ would put on something we did recognize, but it didn't get crazier than Justin Bieber's, "Sorry."

from. I ended up spending way too many pounds on a piña colada, but I figured one would be worth the experience.

The club didn't actually start to get crowded until around 11:00 p.m., an hour after we showed up. After the

various ages and none of them gave the security guards any reason to leave their post. I was shocked. As Kim pointed out, if we were back in America, especially Los Angeles, there's no way the bouncers would stay in one spot the whole night.



Lola Lo, a popular club spot in the heart of Cambridge, England. (Google Images)

clock struck midnight, the club started charging for admission. The good thing about Cambridge nightlife—they let you book tickets in advance. I easily reserved a table online, giving them my name at the door. The downside? Once you leave, you have to pay to get back in, which Christine learned the hard way. Once more people arrived, the party actually got started, and with a little bit of encouragement, I was able to convince the girls to hit the dance floor.

Most of the people dancing were students from the university with the occasional postgrad groups, who still tried to fit in with the crowd. I must say, the dancing was very respectful in comparison to what I've seen back in the states. There were groups of

Finally, the last major difference I found was in the clothing. Lola Lo's has a relatively strict dress code and themed nights to encourage partygoers to wear certain outfits. Every night, they say you'll be denied entry if you wear trainers (sneakers) or sportswear. In a confirmation email, they stated that, "the dress

code for the evening is smart casual with a touch of glam." With that in mind, I put away my Patriots jersey and tried my best to put together some outfit that fit the category.

The girls and I came together and decided on cute blouses with heels. Thankfully, we were dressed up enough to blend in with the crowd. There were, in fact, plenty of women on the dance floor completely dolled up: mini skirt, heels and all. Most British guys wore their slacks and loafers. Christine was surprised to see so many girls wearing such nice dresses to a tiki bar. Needless to say, I guess the theme wasn't as clear as the club intended, but that didn't stop anyone from having a good time.

The way I see it, taking the risk of going out that night was completely worth it. It may not have been the kind of nightclub I was expecting, but I danced all night anyway. All this means is that maybe next Friday we'll try a different venue.



From left to right: Christine, Mel, and Kim home safely after a fun night out. Photo Credit: Benjamin McCrimmon)

Christine Nguyen and Kimberly Gaona. We may not have been the most outgoing group there, but in our book, studying abroad means having new experiences; so together, we decided to try something different. After spending the evening at Lola Lo's, we dis-

Another distinct difference we encountered was obviously the drinking age. In England, we are legally allowed to buy drinks at the bar. However, their selection was very limited. Bars in L.A. boast many options. But here, there weren't many options to choose



Lola Lo's tiki-themed bar, which by 11:30pm, was filled with well-dressed party goers. (lolalo.co.uk/venues/Cambridge)

Inaugural controversy follows Trump into first weeks in office

RYAN CORSO
STAFF WRITER

It's been 15 days since President Trump's inauguration and his speech is still finding its way into headlines. Controversy arose due to the rhetoric of President Trump's speech and following claims about the size of the crowd in attendance on Jan. 20. Much of the criticism surrounding President Trump's inauguration speech has focused around his tone and demeanor. He described, "rusted-out factories scattered like tombstones across the landscape of our nation" and "American carnage." Trump broke away from what most presidents have done re-

cently by not create an uplifting, inspiring message, although he did conclude more positively as he promised to eradicate crime and put America first.

"Trump did an okay job saying what a lot of people have been saying. He kind of stuck to the same message that he had been saying all throughout the election," said Andrew Payne, junior. "However, he's just too blunt which really didn't help with him [unifying] America." Payne felt that the tone and rhetoric of the speech "only separates America, which is a big problem."

While Trump laced his speech with "We the people" and "their dreams are our dreams," the reaction of protesters in the

following days seems to demonstrate that not all people felt, or wanted to be included, in the group of people Trump referred to as "we." The Women's March on Washington, which was supported by millions of men and women marching worldwide on Sat., Jan. 21 proved to be a vocal and visual counterpoint to the president's speech.

Professor Konrad Hack, Director of Forensics, explained, "Trump gave what we call a stump speech, or a reiteration of the same speech he's been giving all throughout his campaign and it was meant for his followers specifically." Hack further explained that the best way to look at Trump in order to understand

him, is to view him not as a politician, but as a CEO of a company; that company being the United States. He said that when we view him in this lens, one can start to see the strategy behind Trump's words and actions.

The size of the crowd in attendance seemed like a trivial issue at first, but President Trump has continually stated that it was the largest crowd to ever attend an inauguration. D.C. transit statistics from WMATA show demonstrably less ridership into Trump's inauguration than Obama's 2009 inauguration--193,000 to 513,000. Sean Spicer, U.S. Press Secretary, came out the following day confirming Trump's statement even though

the photo evidence depicted otherwise. This has sparked concerns over how the new president and his inner circle will depict the truth to American citizens.

Humberto Figueroa, sophomore, said "It (crowd size) doesn't catch me as something that the president should be worrying about." Robert Como, sophomore, expressed a more negative opinion on the matter. "I think it's a cause for concern... It sets a bad precedent for what's to come. Things like alternative facts and such worry me, especially if the population begins to believe them." In an era where facts are debatable, the Core question of "What is truth?" seems more relevant than ever.

Pop Art: Culture clashes with classics

NIKKI IEZZA
STAFF WRITER

Last week, a group of Concordians (myself included) dove into the art world during a visit to the Orange County Museum of Art's exciting new exhibit. From now until April 2, the concisely titled Pop Art Design exhibit, will be open to everyone interested in this post WWII style.

The biggest name in the Pop Art movement is Andy Warhol, and the presence of his art in the exhibit is an exciting addition for many. "I am so excited to see the Andy Warhol works they have on display," said Grace Tom, junior. "The ones they have back home in New York are super cool and it's awesome to have an exhibit so close by." Warhol was a lead-

ing figure in the movement and is often credited as one of the first artistic pioneers to marry celebrity culture to artistic techniques.

The Pop Art movement started in the mid 1940's but didn't get popular until the 60's. Pop art displays items that are central to the culture of a specific era, such as shows, advertising, television and social trends. "The new pop art exhibit is all about pop culture, and [how] the generation that experienced it wants to reminisce on their upbringing," said Emma K., an employee at the museum. "[People] like to visit for nostalgia and the Andy Warhol has been bringing in attention as well."

Alongside Warhol, the exhibit also showcases the works of Claes Oldenburg, Roy Lichten-

stein, Ed Ruscha and Richard Hamilton, contrasted with works by other revolutionary designers like Charles Eames, George Nelson, Achille Castiglioni and Ettore Sottsass.

The Pop Art movement was heavily influenced by the post WWII capitalism boom, and created in reaction to the political and economic supremacy of its time. During the movement, media and art began mix. A sign at the beginning of the exhibit explains further, "Without a manifesto or any fanfare, art was pulled down from its moral pedestal; and placed on eye level with everyday culture. This leveling of viewpoints was largely facilitated by the mass media, which gained increasing significance. Media

transported the private domain and, in reverse made private things public, thereby redefining the common world view." In our current era, we face an even greater surge of media than the Pop Artist, which makes comparing their world to ours beyond fascinating.

My favorite part was the graphic design collection including posters, musicians and maps of the 60's. This exhibit had a unique selection that I would recommend to anyone with an eye for

art. The museum is located next to the Fashion Island shopping center at 850 San Clemente Dr. Newport Beach, CA 92660 and is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. The hours are extended on Friday, leaving the museum doors open until 8. Bring your student ID and save \$2.50 on the usual \$10 general admission, or wait until Friday, when admission is free. If you would like any further information call (949) 759-1122 or go to OCMA.net



Courtesy of OCMA.net

orange
COUNTY
MUSEUM
OF ART

OCMA, Courtesy of ocde.us

Photo Credit: Nikki Lezza

Preview: Grimm Hall Art Gallery gets graphic

ZIXUAN WANG
STAFF WRITER

Starting on Wed., Feb. 8, the Grimm Hall Art Gallery presents the work of Graphic Design majors from 10 different Concordia classes. The gallery will be open to everyone, both students and non-students, no tickets are required, and some art pieces will be available for purchase.

"It was really fun to look at [my] friends' artworks," said Jason Zhang, junior, Graphic Design major, recalling a previous student showcase. "It's like seeing a different side of the people who hang out with you." He

also mentioned that one of his friends spent a lot of time on the final artwork, so Zhang decided to go just to see it. In the end, he found all the art was amazing.

"Those pieces are not all from professionals, but you can see how much time they put into [their] projects," Peter Lu, junior, Business major said. "It's worth your time." Invited last year by a friend, Lu said, "I didn't expect that much from students' work, but it did surprise me how good those pieces were."

"There was one painting that really impressed me." He showed me a picture of the painting that

he had taken from last year's exhibition. It was four people at a gambling table. "What surprises me is their facial expressions; it looks so real," said Zhang.

In the painting, the man at the leftmost corner is cheating. He looks down to the cards with almost closed eyes, but you can tell that he is looking at the cards of the girl sitting beside him. At the same time, his hand is holding a card behind his back.

"I don't see anyone in this painting as the main character, but the girl who sits in the middle does grab my attention," said Zhang. He said the girl's face

looked sad and angry. It seemed she had bad cards, but she was looking up, as if she were regretting her decision to gamble.

Some featured pieces reproduced famous works. In last year's exhibition, reproduced paintings were presented with their originals beside them. Some reproductions were trying to express the emotions or ideas of their original painting differently. The exhibit invited plenty of comparison, "I [enjoyed] both," Lu said, "but I like original pieces more because I can see more of what the students try to express."

"I liked famous pieces more because it would show more of a student's techniques of painting," said Zhang. "As the same major, I would learn more from the re-painting of those famous works."

Attending the exhibition doesn't cost a penny, and Rachel Soo, Professor of Graphic Design, and her students will welcome you with great art at Grimm Hall Art Gallery lounge. Students will present their pieces in a free reception on Feb. 11 from 1 to 2 p.m.

Homecoming and Family Weekend: “An Enchanted Estate”

PAIGE HEISER
STAFF WRITER

Homecoming offered Concordia an evening at “An Enchanted Estate.” The themed dance was the highlight of a successful Homecoming and Parents Weekend.

The dance took place at the Coto De Caza Country Club on Fri., Jan. 27. The night was filled with dancing, great food and fun games. With options like pool, foosball, a photo booth, a chocolate fondue station and even a horse carriage ride, there was something fun for everyone.

Laura Courvoisier, Director of Community Involvement and Leadership Development, said, “We went way over



Matthew King and Kayla Biar, Photo Credit: Michael Hammerle

our goal for ticket sales these past two years. We had an amazing turnout, and the venue was great.”

Courvoisier was also in charge of the homecoming court voting process. Traditionally, students vote in person, but this year, all of the voting was done online. With use of the Eagle Insider email, they sent out a mass email to the students to remind them to vote and how to do so. Courvoisier said, “it was the highest number of voters we have seen!”

Congratulations to this year’s Homecoming King and Queen, John Severino and Makayla Predney.

With fun and laughter, the Homecoming dance was the perfect way to start a weekend full of events for

students, faculty, staff and alumni. “One of the main events of the weekend was “The Road to Reminisce.” Senior Braden Delannoy, LEAD Student Activities Coordinator, said, “This walk/run highlighted the best aspects of the campus.” The alumni were able to stroll around the campus, reminiscing on their time here all over again.

Delannoy said, “The whole reason for this weekend was to have the alumni be able to come back to campus and reminisce.” With events ranging from golf, CU tag, family fun carnival, alumni tailgate and different alumni sporting events, the weekend successfully incorporated alumni back into the Concordia community.

Concordia’s Speech & Debate teams

ALBERTO GONZALEZ
STAFF WRITER

Forensics had a very successful semester in the fall, with the speech team earning the highest ranks in five tournaments and the debate team advancing into the final rounds of their tournaments with equal frequency. Concordia’s Speech and Debate Team has worked to become one of the premier universities for Forensics in the Western United States. Since their formation in 2007,

the team won National Championship Titles in 2013 and 2015. The team includes a diverse group of majors, ages, and opinions., Sophomore Ryan Corso, Debate, said, “We are all very hard working individuals with a great coaching staff, and receive a lot of support from school, which is an important component to our success.” The coaching staff includes Yaw Kyeremateng, Director of Individual Events, Angelica Grigsby, Assistant

Director of Individual Events, alongside Richard Ewell and Amanda Ozaki, Co-directors of Debate. “Kyeremateng is very good, dedicated and motivated,” said senior Diego Perez, Speech. “Richard Ewell and Amanda Ozaki are great coaches because they are both passionate, determined and balance each other out because they both bring their unique skills that really make this team what it has become,” said Corso.

Perez and Corso have experienced the magic preparation can be. Before a speech, Perez said he practices his speeches “in front of the mirror, [then] practice and then do some more practice.” Repetition and rehearsal is key, especially when emotions try to overwhelm team members. Before a speech, “I get nervous, excited, tired,” said Perez, but preparation helps calm his nerves. Corso said, “Before a debate I do some

drills. For example I put a pencil in my mouth and speak for a couple minutes.” This helps Corso with his pronunciation and gets his lungs ready for his debate. While both students have experienced success in the past year, Perez and Corso know that combined individual effort is what creates a solid team. In order to keep the team’s momentum going, Perez said, “I bring motivation, politeness, and fun to the squad.” Corso, meanwhile,

said he brings “Humor and a good bridge between the debate team and the speech team, very different political views and perspective that helps the team in a very unique way.” Lastly, Corso said “we are all dedicated individuals that want to succeed and will do whatever is asked of us.” Their next tournaments will take place Feb. 4 and 5 at Long Beach State University and Feb. 14 and 15 at Long Beach State University.

Out of the drought?

RYAN KETCHAM
STAFF WRITER

The California drought has been a nationwide concern over the past few years, but the recent downpours have people wondering if its at an end. It took only three weeks to put the coasts of Southern California in flood-like conditions. These conditions seemed to hit California homeowners by surprise. Long Beach citizen, Dale Freeze explained, “I [had] never seen it this flooded. This [was] so crazy. There [were] people all over the place taking advantage of the water.” Long Beach was one of many Southern California cities that went viral with video of people paddle boarding and jet skiing through the flooded streets. Record inches of rain were established in the downtown area of Long

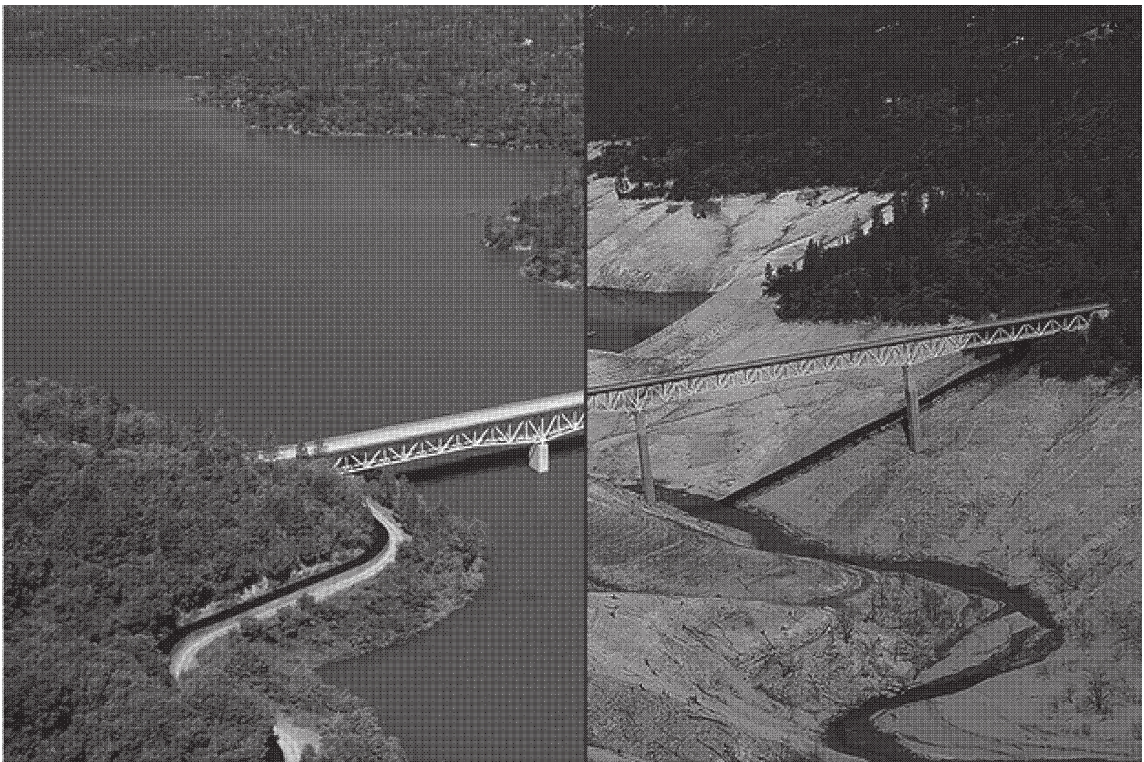
Beach, as well as many other cities in Southern California.

California had been desperate for the water for quite some time now. Restaurants had been known to serve less water at meals and changed their policies so that they would only give water to customers if they were asked to. Cities like Newport Beach had made laws that stated watering lawns should be limited to only once a week. “Hooray! We really could use the rain. It is much harder to predict what the rest of the year will look like regarding the weather and rainfall,” said Dr. Sarah Karam, Assistant Professor of Biology. “Last year was very inconsistent and unpredictable, and the pattern continues. It is much easier to predict the weather 10 years down

the road than it is one year.” The last series of storms dropped 2.01 inches in near-

by Corona del Mar, and record all-time rainfall was recorded at Long Beach Air-

port. Irvine may see more of the wet stuff on Monday.



Lake Oroville, Courtesy of buzzfeed.com

The CUI Theater Reviews: The Nerd

CHLOE HEISER
STAFF WRITER

If you need a little levity this weekend, the Theatre Department presents *The Nerd*, a play full of comedic moments and student actors who love to make their audience laugh. Michael Solomon, freshman, plays the lead character Wilum, and believes that director Jeremy Lewis challenged him to become a better actor. Solomon said that performing in this play helped him grow and broadened his skills.

The cast and crew of the *The Nerd* returned to campus a week before winter break was officially over and have been working on this production ever since. Returning to campus early and spending weeks on a performance can improve a show's quality, but it can also improve the relationships between cast members. "I feel as though, I have made even closer friendships with everyone on set," said Solomon.

The audience was laughing and reacting to every joke the actors delivered. "This was the first Concordia play that I have ever been to," said Danny Balogh, senior. Her favorite character was the Nerd, whose performance reminded Balogh of the classic "Family Matters" character, Steve Urkel. Balogh said this show has something for everyone to enjoy because it includes different types of humor throughout to appeal to all audiences. Plus, the whole cast is very talented.

This weekend, the play runs from Feb. 3-4 at 7:30 p.m., and Feb. 5 at 2:00 p.m. in the Studio Theatre. After that work for the next new show begins. *The Nerd* is free for all students and you can get your ticket with your student ID or by using the promo code CUISTU. Enjoy the show!



THE NERD BY LARRY SHUE



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY IRVINE

Courtesy of Concordia University Irvine Music & Theatre's Facebook Page

FOWL LIVING WRITTEN BY: ALEX CARR
DRAWN BY: KARA DER

