

THE CONCORDIA COURIER

INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

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Concordia University Irvine

Friday, January 18, 2019

Concordia receives grant support for Latina Leadership Conference



PICTURED ABOVE - Thanks to the generous support of sponsors, future first-generation college students learned how to navigate the road to college. Pictured from left are 2018 conference sponsor representatives from the U.S. Army, Cox Communications; Concordia University Irvine Provost Peter Senkbeil; U.S. Army, and AT&T. PC: CUI ;;

STAFF REPORT

Edison International recently recognized Concordia's Latina Leadership Conference for its outreach to students in underserved communities with a \$10,000 grant.

Edison International is the parent company of Southern California Edison. The grant, part of Edison's commitment to cultivate access to higher education in underserved communities, supports Concordia's free half-day conference for first-generation high school and

community college girls. The event brings students and parents together to learn how to navigate the road to college. This endowment marks the first time that the conference has been recognized with a grant award.

"To see Concordia Irvine's Hispanic initiative recognized for its annual outreach conference is valuable," said first-generation college student program facilitator Lizz Mishreki, APR. To lay the groundwork for its Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) designation, Con-

cordia launched the Latina Leadership Conference in 2016. Campus-wide departments and faculty, including the School of Business and the School of Education, volunteer their time each year as speakers and panelists. Members of Nuestra Voz, Concordia's Hispanic culture club, also donate their time to the outreach event.

The Latina Leadership Conference is held annually in October with the ongoing theme that "college is not a dream, it's a plan." The 2019 Latina

Leadership Conference is slated for Sat., Oct. 26 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on campus.

The U.S. Labor Department estimates that by 2024, nearly 20 percent of the U.S. workforce will be Hispanic. At Christian colleges and universities, one in three students are first-generation, meaning they are the first in their family to attend college.

Government shutdown update

SAM SCHUSTER
ONLINE AND SOCIAL
MEDIA EDITOR

It's now Day 28 of the longest government shutdown in United States history... But what exactly does that mean? If you're not sure, you're not alone.

A government shutdown occurs when Congress fails to pass, or the President refuses to sign, legislation regarding funding for government agencies. The current shutdown is a result of Congress' refusal to pass legislation in which President Trump requested \$5.7 billion in funding for the construction of an immigration security wall and fencing along portions of the border of Mexico. According to the White House's Office of Management and Budget, the funding would be used to add an additional 234 miles of steel fencing to the 1,954 mile border, 580 miles of which is already fenced.

Repercussions of the shutdown are consequential. This is the first time in history that members of the Coast Guard have missed a paycheck, news that the Coast Guard's commander shared over twitter stating, "Today you will not be receiving your regularly scheduled paycheck. To the best of my knowledge, this marks the first time in our Nation's history that service members in a U.S. Armed Force have not been paid during a lapse in appropriations."

According to ABC News, more than 800,000 other government employees are either working without pay or have been sent home on unpaid furlough. This includes Border Patrol officers, TSA agents, and air traffic controllers. The National Air Traffic Controllers Association has filed a suit against the Trump administration requesting to

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Spirit Week opportunities for fun

KATIE DEPOL
ASCUI SECRETARY

Do you love Concordia as much as we do? Would you like a week chalked full of exciting events and giveaways that has school spirit written all over it? Love getting prizes for something as easy as getting dressed? Join ASCUI throughout the week as we host events leading up to the "Diamonds are Forever" Homecoming - on Friday, January 25th! We're excited and you should be too!

On **Monday**, there's no school! Take the day to reflect on the influence MLK Jr. had on the world, catch up on your favorite Netflix series, or work on the loads of homework that's just been dumped on you.

Tuesday is Seeing Double 007: Twin Tuesday! Find your best friend, roommate, or next-door neighbor, and pick out your favorite outfit and match! If you don't have anything to wear in common with your chosen twin, you're in luck! Meet us

out on the SU Patio from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and purchase your very own Anchored t-shirt for just \$10. I'd say that's the perfect shirt for twinning.

On **Wednesday**, you'll need to throw on all of your CUI gear and get to the Caf faster than the Flash on a good day it's I♥CUI day! ASCUI is giving away I♥CUI shirts to the first 100 students who arrive at the caf. Limited edition I♥CUI stickers to hand out to the remaining students. We'll be out on the SU Patio from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. taking posing in front of our CUI photobooth and enjoying a special meal in the Caf featuring Concordia's favorite turkey burgers, poke bowls, mini corn dogs, and an ice cream sundae station!

It's the day after hump day and the week is almost over, so we all know what that means, pajama day at school! **Thursday** is James Bond's day off and we're all wearing our pajamas. Meet us out on the SU Patio from

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to receive free lounge day giveaways! We've got face masks, tea, popcorn, sleep masks and more! You don't want to miss out.

We all know James Bond gets hungry after his life-threatening missions are completed. Later on **Thursday**, ASCUI is sponsoring the Post Mission Nutrition: Late Night Breakfast! So, stay in your pajamas and join us before Shout on the CUC Patio from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. and we'll serve you a delicious, home cooked breakfast. After you've had your fill, head to Shout at 9:30 p.m.

It's the day we've all been waiting for; it's **Friday**, the start of the weekend and the day of Homecoming! Get prepped for the dance in your finest attire, head to Friday chapel, and join us on the CUC Patio from 11 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for delicious donuts and punch! Not only will we be serving these tasty treats, but the caf is featuring a chocolate fountain in the caf during

lunch! Who doesn't love a mouth-watering chocolate fountain?

To make this all a little bit more exciting, there's a raffle contest. As you dress up and attend each event, you'll receive one raffle ticket. Each day, we'll draw a raffle ticket for a lucky winner to receive a gift card to places like Chick-fil-a, Amazon, movie tickets and more! Raffle tickets will not carry over to the next day.

Get pumped, get spirited, and get ready for an exciting week of giveaways, prizes, and school spirit!

CODE
YELLOW
GAME

**JANUARY 19 AT
9 A.M.**
men's and
women's swim
meet at Soka
University

THE CONCORDIA COURIER

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Thanks!

Last day to sign up for the President's Academic Showcase!



PICTURED ABOVE -Don't forget to sign up for the President's Academic Showcase open until January 18th

CHARLOTTE WAITE
STAFF WRITER

The final moments to sign up for the 9th annual President's Academic Showcase are upon us. Fri., Jan. 18 marks the last day to register for this event of academic excellence, so grab your smartest friend and favorite teacher and sign up today.

This is not only a great experience to bond with peers and faculty, but will also provide an exceptional resume booster for careers after Concordia.

"Academic showcase is an amazing opportunity for your curriculum vitae or resume for graduate school or any job," said Dr. Nelson, coordinator for the competition. "It shows that you have experience working with a faculty mentor, conducting research, along with having to search and figure out your own path." She added, "and the bonus is possibly winning money if you win the competition."

Students of any academic discipline and year can sign up. This competition

is a chance for top students to work one-on-one with a faculty mentor on an undergraduate research project that the student chooses. There will be two levels of competition. Upperclassmen will be in the Tier One level where as freshmen and sophomores would occupy the Tier Two level of competition.

Projects that qualify can be an extension of a research project done for a class or it can be a completely new project that the student may even be eligible to earn three units of independent study

credit for. If you want to sign up but are having trouble deciding on a project, reach out and talk to a teacher today about possible ideas and to ask them to be your mentor.

The projects will be presented on April 10 to a panel of judges constructed from faculty who will represent a wide range of disciplines from Concordia. Prizes for winners range from \$200 to \$1500, with over \$5000 in prizes given out.

For any questions please talk to or email a faculty

member. Additional information can also be found on the official webpage <https://www.cui.edu/academicprograms/undergraduate/showcase> along with previous showcase results. Don't forget to sign up today!

Concordia's class of 2019

CHARLOTTE WAITE
STAFF WRITER

With their final semester upon them, class is almost out of session for the Concordia class of 2019. I had the honor of talking to three seniors as they prepare for their lives after Concordia and reminisce the enjoyable times they have spent while at Concordia.

Concordia Courier's very own Editor-in-Chief, Ashley Sands, has been at Concordia for all four years of her undergrad. Sands is majoring in Communication Studies with a minor of Creative Writing.

While reflecting on her

years at Concordia, Sands advises her peers to "[not] get caught up in doing things just because other people are. Find out what your passions are and pursue those. At the same time, appreciate this college experience. Make time for the people and things that mean most to you." Making time for people and things that mean most to her is exactly what Sands plans to do after graduation. She hopes to continue on to grad school, travel, do volunteer work, or start working.

Catalina Salazar is another Communication Studies major that has attended Concordia for four years. During her time

spent at Concordia, she has learned many valuable lessons. "I am thankful that Concordia taught me to have civil discourse even with those who I strongly disagree with. Sometimes we forget to look at others as humans, we are flawed but every person deserves respect."

With determination and a strong heart, Salazar is ready to tackle the world and apply for jobs in San Diego, Irvine, and Los Angeles. She will take the lessons she has learned with her and thrive in the world.

Nancy Palmer has also attended Concordia for four years. She recommends for

students to make sure to have a healthy balance of fun and academics.

"Make time for fun and study. Your years here at Concordia are going to fly by; and even though that may sound cliché it is the truth. I had people tell me that and I didn't believe them, but here I am four years later saying the same thing," said Palmer. "College is all about finding the right balance of fun and study. You need to work hard but you also need to have time to play and have a great time because we are still young and have our lives ahead of us to work." Palmer is ready to spread her joy and positivity into

the world and her plans after graduating include traveling before she starts working in the non-profit field.

Concordia's class of 2019 is truly remarkable. These wise, honorable, and cultivated students are ready to take their wings and soar out into the world. We wish the seniors the best in their last semester at Concordia and are excited to see where the winds of the world will take them.

Softball looks to compete for back-to-back PacWest titles

SARAH KRETSCHMAR
SPORTS EDITOR

Softball opens up their season on Feb. 1 in Las Vegas, Nevada as part of the Desert Stinger tournament. Softball had an impressive 2018 season in which they won the PacWest, hosted the regional tournament and finished the year ranked #10 in the NFCA division II. The Eagles look to continue this upward trend of success and aim to bring home another PacWest title.

Head coach, Crystal Rosenthal, is entering her eleventh year as head coach and has been on the Concordia coaching staff since 2000. "Our team is very athletic and versatile, with great experience and an understanding of what it takes to compete at the highest level," said Rosenthal.

The Eagles open up in just under three short weeks and the anticipation to play is high for Rosenthal. "Every game is tough and we have tremendous respect for the programs that we play. Our toughest opponent is always ourselves. We have to make sure to continue to work hard and keep moving

forward as a program," said Rosenthal. Rosenthal noted the excitement for returning pitcher, Caralin Nunes and the leadership roles that the 18 returners will play.

Nunes, a Communications major, is now a sophomore and is from Modesto, California. Nunes had an impressive past being named as a First Team All-American and National Freshman of the Year by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA). She was also a member of the D2CCA All-West Region First Team and NFCA First Team All-Region Team. She was the D2CCA West Region Pitcher of the Year and the 2018 PacWest Conference Pitcher and Freshman of the Year.

Coming off of an outstanding freshman year, Nunes said "I am most excited to see the competition and watch our team unfold." She added, "our team goal is to win a national championship and I look to be the best I can be."

Heather Nonora, outfielder from Lake Forest, California is a Marketing major and is the only senior on the softball team. "I want to leave everything I have on that



PICTURED ABOVE:-Softball poses after winning 2018 PacWest title in clutch win over Biola University. Photo courtesy of cuieagles.com.

field. I got about four to five months left to complete and play the game I love, so I want to enjoy every second I have running around the field with my teammates." She is excited for season to start and said, "I am most excited about bringing home back-to-back PacWest championships."

The Eagles had a strong fall playing many division one teams including Cal State Northridge, Cal State Fullerton and Long Beach

State. "I think this fall has been our best fall yet. We have a lot of talent, just need to clean up some things and find a way to work better together as a team and I think we will be ready for the coming season," said Nonora. Acknowledging her solo seniority, Nonora said, "I hope I can be a leader and a friend to my teammates when they need me to be. Back to back champs, baby!"

Amanda Gjertsen is a junior third baseman and pitcher from Mission Viejo, California.

She is a Biology major. Gjertsen described the team as "scrappy." She said, "I think we meshed well together as a team and played competitive games. I'm excited to pick up where we left off last season and get some more wins." Similar to Nonora, Gjertsen looks to win another PacWest title.

The Eagles will play Northwest Nazarene University in Las Vegas on Feb. 1 at 11:30 a.m. Check out live updates and stats at cuieagles.com.

Men's volleyball looks to turn it around after slow start



PICTURED ABOVE: Senior Chandler Gibb sets Hunter Howell. Photo courtesy of cuieagles.com.com.

SARAH KRETSCHMAR
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's volleyball team is coming off a slow start and have yet to find their groove. As of Jan. 14 and returning from the Hawaiian Airlines Rainbow Warrior Classic in Hawaii, the Eagles are 0-6 with losses to nationally ranked teams such as #10 Cal State Northridge and #3 University of Hawaii. The Eagles are coming off of a tough loss against the New Jersey Institute of Technology in a game that went five sets.

In this game, senior Hunter Howell broke the all-time solo-block record for Concordia and looks to continue adding to his impressive 34 solo block count.

It was a good competition for sophomore libero Addison Enriques who was named to the All-Tournament team. Enriques is a Business Administration major and Marketing minor from Punalu'u, Hawaii. He described his team as "competitive and hard-working" but noted the need to increase their consistency. Following the Hawaii

tournament, Enriques said, "I think the past tournaments have helped us realize what we need to work on as a team. This is a way a different team from last year so we are still adjusting to each other every day. We all get along great but we are still getting used to the way everyone plays."

Enriques also mentioned the immense leadership in which he said, "All the seniors this year are committed to our team and the success of our team. They keep us in check and make sure we are

working hard to get better every day." Enriques comes from a volleyball family and is most excited for their game against his twin brother, Avery, who plays for Grand Canyon University on Feb. 9. Enriques also has an older brother, Emmett, who is a libero for Cal State Northridge.

Jordan Hoppe is a redshirt junior from Greendale, Wisconsin. Hoppe is an outside hitter and Psychology major. Hoppe described the team as "versatile and well-cultivated" and said, "I think our strength as a team is our senior leadership. We have three seniors who have been in this program since their freshmen years and they bring a lot of experience, knowledge and poise."

The slow start is no secret to the Eagles and Hoppe said, "I think as a team it took us a little while to find our identity but now that we found it, the floodgates are open. Our record doesn't reflect what we're capable of and I think it's still really early in the season and we will be a dangerous team come playoffs!"

Raymond Barsemian, redshirt junior, is an opposite hitter from La Crescenta, California. He is also a Psychology major. Commenting on the slow start

for the Eagles, Barsemian said, "To most, this may seem scary right now, but we are a head strong team and are learning from every game we've played. Throughout the games we are finding out what works, what doesn't, and what we need improving in."

Barsemian also mentioned the great team camaraderie when he said "Our team is similar to a close group of brothers. We all love each other, but at the same time we aren't scared to confront one another if needs be."

"I'm looking forward to all my teammates, especially myself, learning from our mistakes and turning it around as soon as possible. We are not discouraged by how we are playing, but instead excited to make the changes, so we can see the results," concluded Barsemian.

The Eagles next home game is Sat. Jan. 19 against Springfield University at noon in the CU Arena. Come see the Eagles in one of their final games before the start of conference play.

Baseball opens up non-conference play on Feb. 1



PICTURED ABOVE:-Eagles celebrate walk off victory in the 2018 season. Photo courtesy of cuieagles.com.

SARAH KRETSCHMAR
SPORTS EDITOR

The Concordia baseball season is right around the corner and the Eagles open up on Feb. 1 in a three game series against UC San Diego. Coming off of a 22-28 record last season, the Eagles look to compete for a PacWest title after finishing sixth last season. Head coach, Joe Turgeon is starting his eleventh year at Concordia and cannot wait to get the season underway. "We look to be competitive in the PacWest, in our region and hopefully nationally," said Turgeon.

Junior pitcher, Alex Zalasky, is from Elk Grove, California and is majoring in Sports Management. Zalasky described the teams as "a close group, who have been around each other a lot the past couple years." Reflecting on the fall season Zalasky said "The fall was really productive. The freshman and transfers fit right into the program and we hit the ground running." He added "As a team our goal is to win as many moments as possible and if we can do that, we will more than likely be very successful."

Jair Donovan, ESS major, is a redshirt sophomore outfielder

from Chino Hills, California. Donovan is coming back from a shoulder injury that occurred in the fall of 2017 when he was diving into second base. Donovan recounted the team as "a goofy, fun and tight knit group." When asked about team goals for the season, Donovan remarked "I want to at least make it to playoffs and of course, win the ship."

Calvin Schonebaum, freshman outfielder from Parker Colorado, is a Business Administration major and said, "the team works hard day in and day out to prepare for the season but the team chemistry is something special." He continued "all of these guys are like brothers to me." "I'm most excited this season to show other teams the talent and skill we have and that, combined with the team chemistry, could make this team a threat to the other teams in the PacWest," concluded Schonebaum.

Turgeon acknowledged the vast experience that the team has by carrying 24 upperclassman. "Our 2019 Team has some experience behind it. We have a good amount of guys that have been around for two or more years and we have brought in an older recruiting class on top of

that. Hopefully with experience comes a little bit of success," said Turgeon.

Of these returning players, Turgeon gives mention to returning All-PacWest shortstop Haloa Dudoit, sophomore outfielder Jair Donovan, junior first basemen Bailey Collins and junior catcher Tony Garcia. Turgeon also touched on the new talents of junior outfielder Matt Lautz, junior first basemen Cooper Moore and junior Shane Hersh.

Turgeon also highlighted the extensive pitching staff expected to perform including junior Cade Temple, sophomore Carpenter Pagett, senior Morgan Brannock, junior Jack Ruegge, senior Andrew Stout, junior Brett Vansant, junior Ren Martin and senior Nick Manago. "Our staff and team are extremely excited for the 2019 Season. We have a group of young men that love one another and care for the success of this team," said Turgeon.

Come check out the Eagles at their home opener on Fri., Feb. 1 against UC San Diego at 2 p.m. Go to cuieagles.com for any and all updates!

Women's Water Polo ready to make a splash in 2019

JOHN ROBERTS
SPORTS EDITOR

The Women's Water Polo team is getting back in the action for their 2019 season. Last season the team finished with a 6-18 record but ended the season with a win over conference opponent Santa Clara University in the Golden Coast Conference Tournament.

This year looks to be different right from the get-go. Each of the women on the team are excited and ready for the challenge ahead of them. "We have been working a lot harder this year," said Senior 2M defender Emily Lawless. "I think we are a lot stronger due to our off-season training. We have focussed a lot on our cardio, specialized movement, and overall body strength."

Coach Dreason Barry is entering his fourth year coaching the women's team. This year will be the first year having a roster built completely by him and his staff. Junior 2M Defender Jade Jette was adamant about how the coaching staff has pushed them a lot harder this past offseason in and out of the pool. "Our graduate assistants Taylor Adair and Kelsey Stumm bring a lot of knowledge to the team and the coaches have been

pushing us really hard during our conditioning to make sure that we are ready for season," said Jette.

This year's team is ready to take on a challenging schedule as they only lost two seniors to graduation last year. There are six rostered seniors this season bringing a lot of needed leadership to the team. Junior attacker Ramsie Haskell said that she is excited about how the roster is looking this season. "We have a lot more skill players and we should have a lot deeper of a bench that we can count on to help the starting group."

Haskell also touched on the experience of the team saying, "everyone is a lot older now because we only lost a couple of girls last year and we got a lot of good freshmen this year who are ready to play." Five new freshmen were added to the roster this season and will be key factors in adding depth to the team.

The team is just finishing their first few weeks of practice and are ready to be back to competing.

Their first game will be against the University of Southern California on Jan. 26 at the CBU mini-tournament. Come see them in action for their first home game vs Whittier College, at William J. Woollett Aquatic Center in Irvine.

PICTURED BELOW:-The water polo team in action at a competition last season.



NEWPORT RIB COMPANY EAGLES OF THE WEEK

SAM SCHUSTER
SOCIAL MEDIA &
ONLINE EDITOR

Jamel White
Men's Basketball

Jamel White, junior on the men's basketball team, earned his Eagle of the Week honor after scoring a career-high of 20 points against Azusa Pacific University on Saturday, Jan. 5. Originally from Louisiana, White transferred to Concordia this year from Feather River College in Northern California. Since he began his journey at Concordia, White has started in every game and is genuinely

thankful for the opportunity to play here. "I just love it here," said White. "Everyone here wants to see you succeed. Playing with a team, you touch a lot of people's lives both on the court and off the court. You can get connected with great people." The standout guard has scored 170 points so far this season, the second highest on the team. White isn't hard to spot on the court sporting his signature dreadlocks, which he's been proudly growing for six years, so be sure to keep an eye out for him and the rest of his team when the Eagles return to CU Arena on Jan. 24.



Nickname: Mel

Favorite moment from this season: Being able to get interviewed after a game and my family back in Louisiana getting to see it

Favorite Movie: Shottas

Favorite Music Artist: Lil Wayne

Favorite Color: Red

Celebrity Crush: Destini Cooper

Dream Vacation: Hawaii

Hobbies: I love visiting new places

Fun Facts: I'm the youngest of 7 kids and I've been growing my dreads for 6 years now

Around-the-World Semester® begins its preparation for the next trip

ASHLEY SANDS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Around-the-World Semester®, launched in 2010 by Professor John Norton and Professor Lee, continues to grow and impact professors and students at Concordia. In fall of 2017, nearly 25 students traveled to ten different countries with four visiting professors.

Norton, Chair of the English Department, began this program to provide students with a rich learning ground. He wanted Around-the-World® to be a faculty led study abroad experience with a mission component.

While abroad, students learn how to step outside their culture. "It's too easy to say another culture is weird or backwards," Norton said, "but that's just lazy. With the Around-the-World Semester® students are encouraged to ask questions to understand the story behind other cultures."

The program intends for students to get a sense of each nation's history, witness how God is working through the people in each place, and make friends. "Through

personal connection, there's an opportunity to ask questions that might seem a bit embarrassing," Norton said, "Like why is Ugali such an important food in Kenya?"

Last year, a church in Greece invited the study abroad team and Iranian refugees to a dinner. "It was so awesome to see how they served an at-risk community," Norton said. "It's amazing for our folks to be able to see the faith and courage it takes to do that. It's a faith builder."

Junior Business Marketing major, Maia Jorgensen, went

on the trip in 2017. "Once I went around the world, my life plan changed," Jorgensen said. "I realized you don't have to be a missionary to go and serve."

Norton noticed that study abroad students often feel a disconnect after returning home. "Someone goes, they have this awesome experience, and no one knows," Norton said. "They try to walk through that experience and unpack it with other people and it's very difficult."

For that reason, Norton has involved more professors in the trip. Last year, four

additional professors visited students for two weeks in various countries. "More professors walked with our students for two weeks in a very intense international experience," Norton said.

Jorgensen came back with new perspectives. "The experience abroad was incredible, but you don't have to have an experience like this for your life to change," Jorgensen said. "You can serve abroad; you can serve at home."

Norton wants to provide students with the opportunity to unpack their experience abroad with thoughtful

professors on campus. "I want them to come back with better questions and personal experiences that will help them push more deeply into the academic experience they're having here," Norton said.

The next Around-the-World Semester® begins August 5, 2019. Check out the website for more information: <https://www.cui.edu/academicprograms/programs-abroad/around-the-world-semester>

PICTURED BELOW: Pictures of the ATW V team PC: cui.edu



The merits of volunteering

Nancy Palmer
Staff Writer

What does it mean to volunteer to you? To me volunteering has become an essential part of my life. I grew up volunteering, and have spent countless hours and holidays caring for those who need help. It is not about the recognition that you get it is about the gratification of helping someone else that makes volunteering worth while. There is so much to learn from people who have lived different lives than our own. I started my volunteering career at an organization called the Orange County Rescue Mission. After volunteering there for many years I decided to apply for a job there and got it. The stories of the people I have worked with has changed the way that I view homelessness in Orange County.

One of the most impactful stories I have heard is from my friend, Mike Ylizarituri. Growing up Ylizarituri saw violence as a fact of life. After years of fighting and near death experiences Not surprisingly, as an adult Mike was shot at, stabbed, arrested for DUIs and thrown in jail more times than he cared to remember. Mike should have died when his heart stopped for the seventh time. But after waking up very much alive, Mike could only conclude that God was keeping him around for a reason. He was living on the streets and didn't know where to go. Ylizarituri said "I looked like I had just come out of a garbage can. Most people just looked away." His life was hard and he didn't believe that he was worth anything until he found the Rescue Mission. Now he has a job and living a violent free life. When Ylizarituri told me

this story I couldn't believe it, and I know that I will always be grateful to Ylizarituri for sharing his story with me.

Dr. Angela Williamson, an adjunct professor at Concordia University as been a long time volunteer, and has been with the Philanthropic Educational Organization, or P.E.O, since 2014. I asked her what does volunteering mean to her and she said this about volunteering "I have volunteered for a long time, but I am most proud of my work that I have done with P.E.O. As of today, I have helped provide grants to single mothers going back to school and our group raises so much money that we fully support a women's university, Cottey College, in Nevada, Missouri." There are many ways to volunteer, and everyone who helps makes an impact in someone's life. Volunteering has always been a part of my life.

Government shutdown update

Continued from pg 1

be paid throughout the shutdown so that they can remain "laser-focused" in their high-stakes job where they guide more than 40,000 commercial aircrafts a day. A federal judge has since denied the request.

The IRS is also requiring an estimated 46,000 employees, around 60% of its workforce, to work without pay during the shutdown to ensure returns are processed, refunds are mailed and call centers remain open. Walk-in assistance centers will remain closed but the IRS is reminding people that they are still required to pay their taxes on time.

"I don't really know enough about it to have a strong enough opinion," says junior Haley Diefenbach. "All I know is that other presidents have done the same thing but this is the longest." Diefenbach is right. There have been a total of twenty other government shutdowns in U.S. history, including one that lasted twenty-one days during the Clinton administration which was the longest before the current

shutdown. During the Reagan administration, there were eight government shutdowns for reasons ranging from welfare packages to missile funding.

According to MSNBC, the current shutdown will soon cost more than the wall itself, with the economy losing about \$1.2 billion each week the shutdown continues. So when will it end? According to ABC News, there is no end in sight to this political standoff. President Trump's twitter feed shows no signs of backing down. On Sunday, Trump tweeted: "The damage done to our Country from a badly broken Border - Drugs, Crime, and so much that is bad - is far greater than a Shutdown, which Dems can easily fix as soon as they come back to Washington!"

For more information on the government shutdown, tune into your preferred news station.

Tips for graduating Seniors

JOHN ROBERTS
SPORTS EDITOR

Graduation can be a very stressful time for many seniors around the country and here at Concordia. Most senior class students are worried about life after graduation in a challenging job market, while others are concerned about passing their upper division classes and being able to walk on May 5. Don't worry seniors. We have several tips for you to get through your last semester and have some fun along the way.

Some students are excited for the end of their collegiate athletic career like senior Daniel Castagnola. Castagnola, a Communication major, says he is ready for graduation in May. "I'm excited for graduation even though I don't have any plans for after college.

I think I am just going to continue my summer coaching job and keep applying for jobs."

Castagnola advised seniors looking towards graduation to make sure they get all their homework done and to not procrastinate on assign-

ment sessions." Redmann said he wants to enjoy his last semester of college because the working world is potentially much tougher than college life. He recommends fellow seniors to go see an event on campus you normally wouldn't see. "Go to a

the west coast, applying to schools such as the University of Southern California, California State University Dominguez Hills and Arizona State University. "I am excited to graduate but also nervous because I haven't gotten accepted anywhere

be involved with career fairs and any networking events that their school has to offer." He added, "I would make sure to connect with mentors to get some advice on how to best prepare for a new challenge in life."

Dr. Fugitt also stressed the importance of making the last weeks count. "Enjoy your last semester! There is enough worry in the world that you don't need to go looking for it... adulthood kind of sneaks up on you. I realized I was in it when I was discussing flooring choices for my house - That is something I never worried about in college."

"Enjoy your last semester! adulthood kind of sneaks up on you. I realized I was in it when I was discussing flooring choices for my house..."

~Dr. Gilbert Fugitt

ments. It helps to have the end goal in mind.

Senior Daniel Redmann is less nervous about finishing his time at Concordia. The Business Finance major, said he is "excited to complete a bachelor's degree after an intense four years of studying and a lot of late

tennis match or another on-campus event and support your fellow classmates," said Redmann.

Other students are planning to continue their education. Senior Samantha Leyesa is currently applying to graduate school for Occupational Therapy. She wants to stay on

yet," said Leyesa. Her advice for other seniors is "don't let anything hold you back this semester, everything will work out the way it is supposed to."

Dean of Students, Dr. Gilbert Fugitt, also gave some great insight for seniors. He recommends "seniors should

Concordia students weigh in on iPhone vs. android debate



PICTURED
LEFT: Iphone and
andriod side by side
PC: Courtesy of
Google

AMAR VADHIA
STAFF WRITER

In today's market, there really are only two types of phones consumers use. The Apple iOS devices and Android devices. One is marketed through its ease of use, while the other is marketed through its customizability. The students at Concordia

enjoy the reliability, and convenience of having these smart devices.

"I have been using iPhones for as long as I can remember. It is just so simple, I use it to call friends and family, to use the internet, and to read," said senior Jasmine Washington. She explained that she uses an iPhone 6 mainly

because it is easy to use compared to android devices. The simplicity of the iPhone is what draws people towards Another iPhone user is Miranda Krause, senior, "I feel like Apple products have minimalist features which are straightforward and easy to use. I don't have the bigger iPhone, the plus, so I feel like that's

a good decision on my part because that's like a slightly smaller iPad."

After asking Krause if she would ever make the switch to an Android device she said, "Probably not. I had an early android in like 2011 and then switched to an iPhone. I'm just really accustomed to Apple products and I don't think I would want to change to android." She added, "I don't want to relearn a new system when I don't have any complaints about the current one I am using."

On the opposite spectrum of Washington and Krause, senior Jasmine Sharp with her Android device. "I don't use an iPhone actually, I use a Huawei Mate 9". She added, "I don't think

I would ever switch from an Android to an iPhone. I am used to what I have". This seems to be the common trend regarding both iPhone and Android users. Users like the systems they are familiar with.

Whether on the iPhone or Android side of the debate, students at Concordia love their phones. iPhones are used mostly due to their simplicity, while android devices are used for their customizability. It really is a matter of personal preference for which to choose. When it comes to the next phone you choose to buy, just think, do I want something simple? Or something that I can customize.

Sparking joy with Marie Kondo

EVA REYES
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
EDITOR

At the start of the new year Netflix launched its hit show, “Tidying up with Marie Kondo”. Using a minimalist approach, Kondo shows families and viewers how to declutter their homes and organize their lives with items that, “spark joy.”

Known best for her book, “The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up,” the show follows host Marie Kondo as she goes through people’s homes sharing her “KonMari” method for organizing; Organizing items by category instead of room-by-room like most of us do. In this case, the five categories to tackle are clothes, books, papers, komono (miscellaneous items) and sentimental items (family photos or heirlooms).

Throughout the eight episode series Kondo is introduced to a new family of hoarders as she expels her cleaning wisdom. It begins with a commitment. As these families have enormous messes to clean, the process takes weeks so they must keep the end goal in mind. While many associate her work with cleaning, it’s more so about ridding yourself of things that lack value.

To determine what people end up keeping, she has families remove everything from closets to drawers and has them set item out or in a big pile. Kondo highlights, when people see all their clothes in a pile it forces them to confront the accumulation of things in their homes. Once things are in the big pile, she has families go through each item and consider if it sparks joy in their life. Although it seems unnatural at first, people do get better at finding what items are significant and other things they can simply

do without.

Because folks are actively choosing items that spark joy, and discarding what doesn’t, the intention of the KonMari method is to end up with a clutter-free home that is better able to bring more joy and prosperity to your life.

While tidying, she encourages families to visualize the life they want to live — to be less stressed, for example — and what you need to get there. Anything that won’t help on that journey isn’t deserving of your space or you, she says.

As individuals begin

their spring cleaning it’s no surprise the show has become an instant hit. As Kondo meets families and tackles unique messes, she shares her minimalist approach for decluttering and teaches audiences how to spark joy in their own lives. Episodes of Tidying Up with Marie Kondo can be found on Netflix.



PICTURED LEFT: Marie Kondo gives advice on how to declutter one’s home. Photo courtesy: Variety.com



PICTURED ABOVE: The release date for Avengers: Endgame is April 26, 2019. Photo courtesy: Google

5 of the Most Anticipated Movies 2019

GIOVANNI BRITO
STAFF WRITER

1. “Avengers: Endgame” The fourth film in the Avengers franchise is set to be the end of a long adventure for earth’s mightiest heroes. Set a year after Thanos wiped out half of Earth’s population in Avengers Infinity War, the film finds our heroes in limbo. A now broken Avengers team has to use all of their resources to come together once more on what could very well be their last adventure. “Avengers: Endgame” hits theaters on April 26, 2019.

2. “The Lion King” Disney is bringing back a classic with the live-action version of “The Lion King.” So far all that has been released is a teaser trailer which is a remake of the memorable opening scene with all the animals witnessing the rise of their future king, Simba. Fans of the original film will notice the voice of James Earl Jones as he reprises his role as the voice of Mufasa. With a celebrity all-star cast in the mix, you do not want to miss this classic retelling of “The Lion King.” In theaters July 19, 2019.

3. “Pokemon Detective Pikachu” Fans of the popular cartoon series Pokemon unite. The first ever live-action film in the history of Pokemon is set to be something extraordinary. “Detective Pikachu” will be voiced by Ryan Reynolds who is well known for playing the Marvel character Deadpool. The film will be a spin on the buddy-cop genre and takes place in a universe where Pokemon and people live with one another. Go catch it in theatres May 10, 2019.

4. “US” Do you like scary movies? If so, you should definitely add “US” to your list of horror films to watch this year. Director Jordan Peele, who was behind the groundbreaking “Get Out” in 2017, is back with another film that has people freaking out. The trailer released shows an ordinary family on vacation when they encountered at their rental home by masked strangers. The film raises the stakes when it is revealed that the strangers are actually exact replicas of themselves out to get rid of them. See it in theaters March 22, 2019.

5. “Star Wars: Episode IX” It is that time again when Star Wars makes its big screen come back. The third and final movie in the trilogy, “Episode IX” will see the conclusion for our hero Rey and the resistance. Many loose ends need to be tied up between the rise of the Sith and what will be the future of the Jedi, and it promises to be an epic battle. Watch the final episode of the saga on Dec. 20, 2019.