

THE CONCORDIA
COURIER
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Volume 14, Issue 11

Concordia University Irvine

February 28, 2020

Living Learning Community
applications soon available



GIOVANNI BRITO
STAFF WRITER

Attention all Concordia residents! The Living Learning Communities (LLCs) are undergoing a few changes and the time to apply is approaching. The LLCs provide a different type of environment compared to our residents halls. There are five different LLCs on campus and we are also welcoming a brand new LLC! Interested? Read on!

The Living Learning Communities provide an opportunity for students to continue to grow their education outside of the classroom. Their mission, “Guided by the Great Commission, Concordia University is committed to student learning, service, and leadership. The Living Learning Communities do this by creating a progressive residential environment that is supportive of students developing personally, becoming responsible global citizens, and learning for a lifetime through

meaningful interactions with faculty, staff and students.”

Erin Koman, Living Learning Community Coordinator, shared her perspective on why students should consider applying for the LLCs. “There are many opportunities for mentorship with faculty who live on campus with their families.” Koman added, “Budgets are provided for the halls as an opportunity for education through travel.”

There are five different LLCs on campus. The first is Honors. The Honors hall is open to all students in the Honors program who want to participate in academic enrichment and service opportunities.

There is also Bella Amore which is a community of women engaged in critical conversations about what is true, noble, right, pure and admirable.

Wittenberg is open to students who desire to be more connected to a community in meaningful

ways where faith in Christ is a natural aspect of life lived together.

There is also Global Village, which is for students who are interested in broadening their understanding of world issues and cultures while on campus.

These four LLCs are located in the Upper Quads. The newest addition is the Transfer hall which is open to all transfer students in an intentional community that focuses on integrating transfer students into the Concordia community. The Transfer hall will be located in Sigma.

Sophomore, Payton Walter, lives in Global Village and has enjoyed her experiences. She said, “Some of my favorite memories have been the times that I have come back to my dorm and see some of the professors’ kids playing outside and I joined them.” Walter continued, “I have gotten to know my professors and their families better, met people

from around the world, like my suitemates, and found a comfortable place to call home all at once.”

One of the unique aspects of the LLC’s is that it allows for conversations with faculty in a neighborhood environment. Dr. Caleb Karges, professor History and Political Thought, lives in Global Village with his family. Karges shared, “It has been rewarding for our family to live in the LLCs. One great aspect has been the celebration of family milestones.” He added, “Having students be a major part of our childrens’ lives has been a wonderful thing to watch. I greatly appreciate seeing how my kids enhance the lives of the residents.”

If you are interested in living in one of the LLC’s the applications will open on March 1 and are a part of Concordia regular housing application process. *The housing applications can be found at housing.cui.edu.*

Suitcase
Bingo
brings
gifts and
joy to
Concordia

SARAH ZIMMER
STAFF WRITER

Last Fri., Feb. 21, almost the entire undergraduate population of Concordia showed up for Suitcase Bingo to win fabulous prizes. The night consisted of 10 rounds of bingo where students needed to match their bingo sheet to the pattern on the screen. The first person to get a bingo chose their Suitcase Bingo basket valued at over \$350.

The baskets consisted of: a Cash Basket, Travel Basket, Fitness Basket, Concert Basket, Dorm Basket, Theme Park Basket, Spa Basket, Coffee Basket, Tech Basket and finally the Suitcase Bingo Trip that was announced in the last round!

The trip this year was a weekend in beautiful San Diego and the winner, Freshman Emily Esteban, got tickets to go to the San Diego Zoo, a \$200 Visa gift card, a \$400 Uber gift card and stayed at the Wyndham San Diego Bayfront Hotel with a friend.

LEAD Student Activities organized the event. One of the Student Activities members, junior Ashley Taylor, said, “Suitcase Bingo is always a blast to put on. We even did a survey this year to get more input from the students so that we can try and make next year even better!” Taylor elaborated, “It’s always really fulfilling to see so many students show up for this event. I mean, you win free stuff so it’s a pretty awesome situation.”

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ASCUI 2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD



PRESIDENT: TYLER HAASE

I am a Junior at Concordia studying Business Marketing and Finance. I am originally from Spokane, Washington. I love to hike, ski and golf, and more importantly, I love the Lord! I currently serve as the ASCUI Club Commissioner, and I have previously been a tour guide for admissions and also I have been an ASCUI Senator for both my Freshman and Sophomore years. I am involved in an Abbey West small group, Surf Club and Omicron Delta Kappa.



VICE PRESIDENT: RYAN JONES

I am a sophomore from Phoenix, Arizona studying to achieve a degree in liberal studies. I have served on Senate for one year and was the ASCUI Treasurer for one semester last year. Coming off the Around-the-World semester, I enjoy beach days with acai bowls, hammocking, and spontaneous road trips with friends.



CLUB COMMISSIONER: JONAH SIELAFF

Hi everyone! My name is Jonah Sielaff and I'm a sophomore in the DCE program here. I want to be your club commissioner because I want to give students the opportunity to get involved with as much as they can here on campus. I want to make students feel a part of something whether that is an existing club and organization or maybe even a new one, I want you to be involved!



SECRETARY: GABI BECKMAN

Hey Concordia! My name is Gabi and I am a junior majoring in communications. I have been a part of LEAD Concordia Cares for the past two years, as well as Senate and Abbey West women's ministry. I want to serve as ASCUI Secretary to better the community here at CUI!



COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: KAYLA GOETZ

I love people and capturing moments! As the communications director, I'll try my hardest to get your good sides and to motivate you to stay involved on this awesome campus! Let's make 2020-2021 gr8!



TREASURER: NATHAN SCHULT

My name is Nathan and I am a junior studying finance and accounting. I grew up in the Midwest and currently live in the Bay Area. I love basketball, twizzlers, and the beach! I want to be ASCUI Treasurer because I love budgeting and working with numbers, and handling money wisely is very important for success.

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Let's get down to business with Delta Sigma Pi

KYLIE TURI
STAFF WRITER

Delta Sigma Pi, the business fraternity on campus, provides an opportunity for students in the School of Business and Economics to make connections, attend seminars and learn more about the business world. Good news for business-minded Eagles because they are looking for new members!

Avery Casteel, President of Delta Sigma Pi said, "We are a professional business fraternity on campus. We are the biggest professional business fraternity in the nation. We have meetings, lead social events, professional events, alumni events and community service events. We also attend LEAD schools and conferences around the nation, and attend educational seminars as

well as listening to the best business professionals."

Casteel added that members also attend Grand Chapter Congress every other summer, as well as participating in networking meet-ups with business professionals and companies. Becoming a member is not as easy as just signing up, however. According to Casteel, the current 24 members had to fill out an application, go through an interview process and take part in a pledge program to become a member of the club.

Along with the chance to make meaningful connections, Delta Sigma Pi also provides opportunities to hone business skills. Erica Cogswell, Vice President of Pledge Education for the club said, "Since I've joined Delta Sigma Pi, I have had the ability to attend numerous professional events we have put on where I have learned

from so many different types of professionals. I've become more comfortable speaking in front of people. I've gained more, such as friendships and even a family of like-minded individuals, that I know I'll have well after college." Cogswell continued, "As a club, we have weekly meetings to discuss operations and business to tend to. We hold professional events where we bring in speakers with various backgrounds. We participate in, and host, tons of community service and fundraising events and do our best to involve the rest of Concordia in any way we can."

Professor Christopher "Kit" Nagel, who teaches in the School of Business, is a faculty advisor to Delta Sigma Pi. He views the club as a way for students to engage with companies out in the business community. "Delta Sig provides great

preparation for those going into the [business] professions. We invite senior managers to campus to talk about their lives and careers. And off campus, we do site-visits to production and logistics facilities - and so give members real-world exposure to the economy."

If you would like to make connections in the business community, get involved on campus and develop great friendships, consider applying to join Delta Sigma Pi. Nagel emphasized, "If I were an undergrad again, I'd surely join Delta Sig." *Students interested in joining should contact fraternity President Avery Casteel at avery.casteel@eagles.cui.edu.*

Suitcase Bingo brings gifts and joy to Concordia

Continued from pg. 1

Daisy Alvarez, LEAD intern who worked closely with the Student Activities team for the event said, "A lot of hard work and dedication was put into this event, and it really shows the passion that Concordia shows for its student body. It's always really fun to make the baskets and plan the trip and see the end result after all the effort put into it."

The next LEAD event put on by Student Activities is Kindergarten Day on March 11! Make sure to check it out and feel like a little kid again. There is also a \$1.00 commuter lunch day so make sure to spread the word.

Loteria night: A night of chance with Nuestra Voz

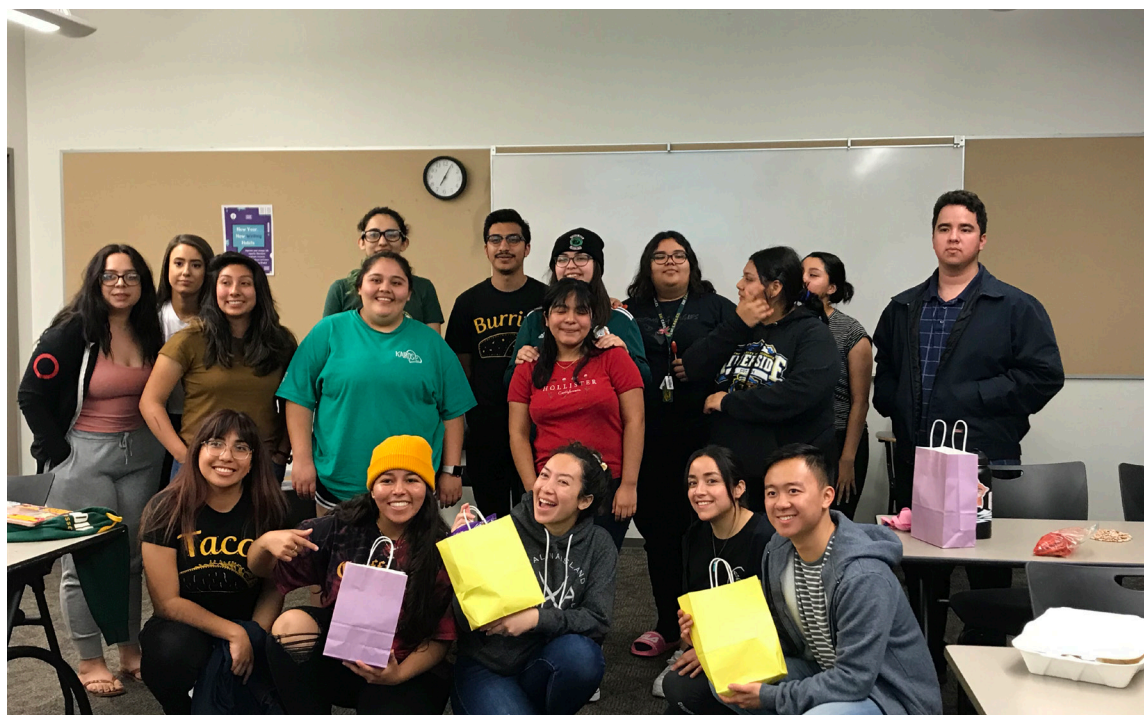


PHOTO ABOVE : Students enjoy Loteria Night hosted by Nuestra Voz. Photo courtesy of Ashley Grajeda.

ASHLEY GRAJEDA
STAFF WRITER

Nuestra Voz's Loteria Night had students come together for a fun night of playing a game of chance known as Lotería on Thurs., Feb. 20. in Grimm Hall from 6 p.m to 8 p.m.

Lotería Night was hosted by Nuestra Voz, which is Concordia's Hispanic/

Latinx club. The club hosts biweekly meetings every Wednesday and Thursday as well as a club event once a month. Johanna Gardea, a senior and club secretary, said Lotería Night "could create a fun environment where people can socialize, make new friends and learn more about the Latinx culture."

Lotería is a traditional Mexican game similar to Bingo but rather than using numbers there are a series of images on the cards that one must be able to find on their game card. The player is given a four-by-four grid card which they mark off, or cover, when the caller draws a card from the deck of cards, the deck contains 54 images.

The event was open to all Concordia students. Giovanni Brito, senior and club president said, "Our goal was to have fun with anybody who showed up. We love to introduce the game to people who may not be familiar [with it]."

Lotería Night began last year and Brito said, "It was a lot of fun so we brought it back again." The club provided music where students were able to request what songs they would like to hear and shared some stories about when they would play Lotería with their families and friends. The event had a great turn out and players were able to win prizes in the form of goody bags. The club also provided snacks that consisted of some traditional Mexican sweet bread known as pan dulce as well as candy, chips and drinks.

Nuestra Voz aims to host events that allow club members to share their culture with other students that are interested. Gardea said, "My hope was to build

a community at Concordia where people of different cultures would be willing to come and learn a little about Hispanic culture and we saw that happen tonight." Brito said, "We are not sure if we will have another game night within the semester but do have a trip planned to Placita Olvera in L.A."

For those who are interested in Nuestra Voz and going to the events or just getting involved, you can go down to the academic advising center found in the Breezeway and talk to faculty advisor Robert Marquez, as well as senior board members; President Giovanni Brito, Treasurer Victoria Garcia, Vice-President Esmeralda Cardenas, Secretary Johanna Gardea or Marketer Yaileen Zamora who can all be reached at this email: esnuestravoz@gmail.com. For more information on upcoming events and meetings follow their Instagram @cuiuestra.voz.

NEWPORT RIB COMPANY EAGLE OF THE WEEK

TAMIA PRINCE

AUSTIN RUIZ
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

The Concordia women's track and field team has risen to No. 33 in the NCAA DII rankings with a number of impressive performances just a few weeks into the indoor season.

Senior Tamia Prince is helping her team reach new heights, and she left her mark in their last meet after a historic race at high elevation in the Albuquerque Convention Center. After blazing to the finish line with a sizzling time of 8.52 seconds in the 60m hurdles, Prince now holds the fastest time in all of the NCAA DII for that event.

It should come as no surprise that this outstanding student-athlete has been chosen as a

Newport Rib Company Eagle of the Week.

"In the past, I hadn't done as well as I would have hoped in the indoor season, so having the success that I have had this time around is a blessing," said Prince.

This is the second straight year Prince has been honored by Concordia Athletics for her achievements. As a junior in 2019, Prince was part of the record-setting quartet that set a program-best mark in the 4x400 meter relay. Prince joined recent Concordia graduates Sarah Herron, Madison Hergert and Fatima Wague on that historic relay race and all four were featured together in a recent issue of CUI Magazine.

Prince has accomplished a lot during her time in a Concordia

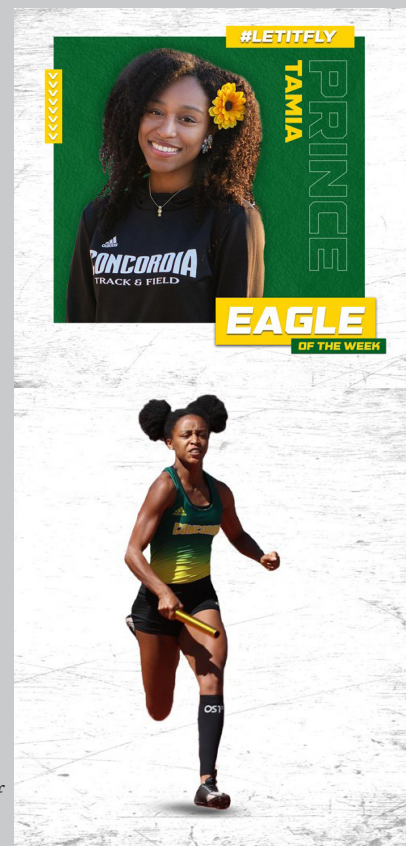
uniform but she is eager to keep improving as she finishes out her senior campaign. She is always looking for ways to get better and get an edge on the competition.

"I think this time around I have put a lot more effort in the weight room and have been eating more of the right foods to help me get stronger," said Prince.

Prince was not the only Eagle to rewrite the school record books at the Collegiate Classic in Albuquerque. Teammates Malia Avila (200m dash) and Gabriella Frost (discus) also posted personal bests that set new program records in their respective events.

For updates on the track and field team, visit cuieagles.com.

*Photo courtesy of
Troy Makalena.*



Maxwell Wickens earns Diver of the Meet at Pacific Collegiate Championship



PICTURED BELOW: *Photo courtesy of
cuieagles.com.*

EMMA MOCHARNUK
SPORTS EDITOR

Wed., Feb. 12, to Sat., Feb. 15, the Concordia Eagles swim and dive team competed in the Pacific Collegiate Swimming and

Diving Championship (PCSC) in Monterey Park, just east of downtown Los Angeles. Senior Maxwell Wickens competed in both the swimming and diving portions of the meet, earning the diver of the meet award, to cap off his first season as a diver.

Wickens, who has been a competitive swimmer for eight years, picked up diving in his last season competing with the Eagles. "I had always dreamed of diving competitively and I figured my senior year I was going to follow that dream and give diving a try," said Wickens.

Wickens had impressive performances in both the 1-meter board, and the 3-meter board, scoring a

total of 168.70 points on the 1-meter board to place third overall and a total of 145.80 on the 3-meter board, placing fourth overall. Wickens also participated in the swimming portion of the meet, competing in the 100-yard breaststroke and as a part of the 400-yard freestyle relay.

"Max's first season as a diver was unbelievably successful. He made the commitment to train right after the first of the year, and worked with our diving coach for five weeks learning proper approach, technique and entry on about eight different dives. He competed in three meets and improved his score every time on both the 1-meter and 3-meter

boards. He learned a lot in a short span and put it to practice in the meets," said head swimming and diving coach Bert Bergen.

Regardless of sport, athletes form meaningful relationships and teams bond in practice and at competitions. "To have him earn all those points from his third and fourth place finishes at the conference championships was almost as rewarding as watching him interact with the other divers at practices and meets; he loved it and the other divers embraced his 'in it to win it' attitude," added Bergen.

Wickens' stellar season was the result of not only hard work and dedication, but also support from those

around him. "Diving is such a different form of competition than I've ever experienced before but everyone in competition always gets so close because we all root for each other and challenge each other. I couldn't have done it without the support from my team and coach Bert as well as my dive coach, Curt Wilson, who taught me everything I know about diving," added Wickens.

Wickens serves as an example that with hard work and determination dreams really can come true. *To catch up on all things Eagles swimming and diving, visit cuieagles.com.*

Court remains in session with March Madness

HAILEY THOMPSON
STAFF WRITER

With Concordia's last home basketball game of this season set to take place tomorrow Feb. 29, fans may be wondering how they can keep their love for the sport alive. Luckily, the end of Concordia's basketball season marks the beginning of the NCAA Division I March Madness, the 64 team national tournament, and the hype that surrounds it.

Throughout the month of March, 64 NCAA Division I men's basketball teams will play in a seven round single-

elimination tournament for the national championship. The festivities will begin March 15 on Selection Sunday. This is when the Selection Committee publicly announces the complete NCAA tournament bracket, including seeds and teams. Selection Sunday, along with each round of the tournament, will be broadcasted by CBS, TNT and TBS.

Don't have a TV in your dorm room? No worries. March Madness can be streamed in its entirety on the NCAA's website: ncaa.com/march-madness-live/

watch?cid=mml2019_ncaa_main_nav. It's perfect for when you need to take a study break or have a little bit of free time on your hands!

Many Concordia students are excitedly awaiting the action. Lainie James, freshman and member of the women's basketball team, said, "I'm rooting for Duke University because I love their head coach and their pursuit of relentlessness. I respect their work and I hope they can come together for the tournament."

Nick Murphy, a junior, noted his passion for watching the tournament, regardless of

the teams playing. "Honestly, I watch March Madness just because I love basketball. Simple as that. I also haven't been keeping up with this year's prospective teams as much as I have in the past, so I'm looking forward to seeing how everyone does."

March Madness also gets the attention of senior Ashley Weaver, who said, "Aside from coming to games here at school, I don't typically spend time watching professional or college basketball. March Madness is for sure an exception, though. It's so much fun to watch the best of the best college teams play

each other. I don't typically favor one team over another, but I think that Kansas has a decent shot this year."

Whether you're a devoted college basketball fan or just looking for something new to stream, March Madness has you covered. Until then, Concordia's men's and women's basketball teams play their final home games against Azusa Pacific University tomorrow. The women's game is at 5:30 p.m. and will be followed by the men's game at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free for all Concordia students!

Baseball opens up strong, starts conference today

SARAH KRETSCHMAR
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Baseball currently sits at a record of 10-5 as they enter PacWest conference play today at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. against Holy Names University on the Eagle field. The Eagles have had some stand out players come up with big time performances and PacWest honors as they close out preseason play.

Shane Hersh, senior from Ojai, is a second baseman for the Eagles and contributed to their 5-3 win over Point Loma last week by hitting his first homerun in an Eagle uniform. The communications major acknowledged the experience and maturity that the current team carries. "I think that since we are an older group, we are just having a good time enjoying our final year and trying to win as many games as possible," said

Hersh. Hersh is batting .289 and holds an impressive .413 OBP.

On the same day against Point Loma, senior Matt Lautz, led the Eagles to victory by delivering a walk off homerun in the bottom of the ninth. This performance earned Lautz PacWest player of the week honors.

"I am just trying to win and give everything I got every day, game and pitch. I try to provide a spark of energy whether it's on defense or offense," said Hersh. He continued, "The rest will take care of itself. We are just riding the wave."

Another stand out player for the Eagles is right handed pitcher, Jimmy Endersby. Endersby is a junior accounting major originally from Garden Grove. Endersby holds a 3-0 record and has recorded an impressive 23 strikeout in only 14.2 innings pitched. Endersby

credits the age and maturity of the team as well as head coach Joe Turgeon's preparation for their early success. "We are learning who we are each day. We are claiming our own identity. Overall, I believe we have a very solid team who is very physical and athletic," said Endersby. As a strong pitcher in the Eagle rotation, Endersby said, "My mindset every time I go out is to give my team the best opportunity to win a baseball game. I don't care how it gets done. I truly have trust in each guy in the dugout and I think this team could do something special. Colton Snyder, another pitcher from West Hills, California also strives to be the best pitcher he can for his team. The liberal arts major and junior said "I expect a lot more from myself for the remainder of the season. I look forward to pushing myself to

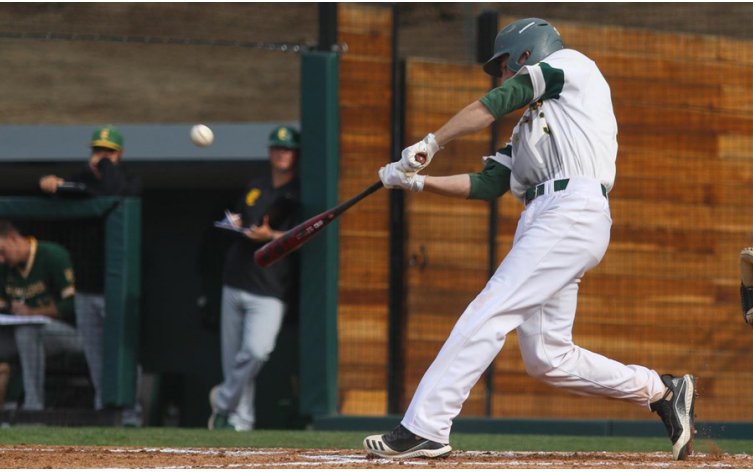
be one of the best pitchers in the conference alongside my teammates."

Many Eagle players have also earned PacWest weekly award honors. Bailey Collins, senior infielder, has earned PacWest Player of the Week. Shane Schick, freshman, has earned the

PacWest Freshman of the Week honor in back-to-back weeks.

Head down to Eagles field today at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to check out the baseball team as they take on Holy Names University. Visit cuieagles.com for any and all updates.

PHOTO BELOW: Matt Lautz at the plate during walk off win over Point Loma University. Photo courtesy of Troy Makalena.



Men's volleyball titles a new all-time kills leader

ADYSON CASTEEL
STAFF WRITER

The Concordia men's volleyball team has already turned heads this season in battles against the best Division I schools in the area, but the players have no intention of settling down any time soon. The most recent feat occurred on Feb. 12, where Raymond Barsemian demolished a school record by becoming the all-time kills leader in a match against No. 7 Pepperdine.

Raymond Barsemian, a redshirt senior from La Crescenta, made volleyball history after surpassing the previous record of 742 kills; this number was held by



PHOTO ABOVE : Raymond Barsemian, all time kills leader for men's volleyball. Photo courtesy of Troy Makalena.

2015-2018 Eagle, Jonathan Predney. Barsemian continued the streak in the

match against Pepperdine by also breaking a personal record of 28 kills in a single match and earning the title of MPSF Hitter of the Night.

The outside hitter is proud but not distracted from the larger tasks at hand. Barsemian said, "I take this accomplishment as a reward for all the hard work I put in, and am constantly putting in. I was not a highly recruited player, so being able to accomplish this record gives back to the ambition and dedication I put in for this sport. This record is only a small accomplishment for what I'm striving to do for this team."

This season, the players are all determined to reach their goal of winning the

MPSF and progressing towards a national championship. Zachary Meyer, a redshirt junior from Wheaton, Illinois, is a close friend and teammate to Barsemian. When asked about his impact on the team dynamic, Meyer responded, "Ray is a good leader. He is kind and keeps the practice demeanor light and fun."

Meyer is confident the team will continue pushing towards their winning goals. He said, "We are a lot better than our record shows. Although we have been stringing together a streak of bad games, we're very close to being one of the top teams in the nation." Even in a hard-fought loss against Pepperdine, men's volleyball

took two sets against the rivals for the very first time.

Barsemian and Meyer -- along with every member of the team -- are working hard for the greater good. "Our goal is to win the national championship. It is nice receiving these individual awards, but my goal is to win every game we play," said Barsemian.

The Eagles completed a major upset this past Tuesday against No. 4 UC Irvine by a score of 3-1. The Eagles took on No. 8 Grand Canyon University last night and will play Westcliff University on March 5 in the CU Arena. Visit cuieagles.com to stay current on upcoming matches and team news.

Gamer Review: "The Room: Old Sins"

CHARLOTTE WAITE
CAMPUS EDITOR

Released two years ago in 2018, "The Room: Old Sins" is a captive video game proving that there is more to things than what is initially seen, all you do is have to poke around a bit. This mobile app defies its age and remains modern and captivating. It is a bit creepy and crawly and very much so captivating and creative. The app is the fourth addition in the "The Room" series, breaking the original plan of "The Room" games being a trilogy. The

app is available on both iOS and Android stores.

Fans of escape rooms will love this game. Fireproof Games, the maker of "The Room" series, summarized the game's premise, "The sudden disappearance of an ambitious engineer and his high-society wife provokes the hunt for a precious artefact. The trail leads to the attic of their home, and the discovery of an old, peculiar dollhouse... Explore unsettling locations, follow obscure clues and manipulate bizarre contraptions as you uncover the mysteries within

Waldegrave Manor..."

While the premise may be simple, the game is not.

This top app of the 2018 Apple store, includes 3-D puzzles, magic and lots of brain power to complete. I would recommend setting aside a day for this game and maybe some friends to help you.

YouTuber Chris Ramsey, puzzle master and magician, recently uploaded a video showing a playthrough of the app. However, in the 26 minutes that he was filming he only got through 1/9 of

the game. Through his video, you can grasp a better sense of the game <https://www.youtube.com>

Metacritic rates this game at an 86% while Common Sense rates the game at a 5/5. The Verge, a multimedia website, stated that "The Room: Old Sins" may be the best touchscreen puzzle yet.

However, as great as this game seems, it comes at a price - five bucks.

Compared to the other apps in the series, this price should be expected as the other games ask for money in order for the user to level up. Even though the price

is expected it is a bit hefty for an app. However, when considering the creative minds and designers behind the app, the price is small.

With the average escape room cost \$30 per person for an hour, the game makes more economic sense too. This app will take exponentially longer than an hour, and you can still have the escape room experience without leaving your room!

For more information visit "The Room: Old Sin" official page at fireproofgames.com/games/theroomoldsins.

Concordia Cares brings spring fun to the Ronald McDonald House

GABI BECKMAN
STAFF WRITER

Concordia Cares, LEAD's on and off campus service group, brought joy to kids and their families at the Ronald McDonald House on Thurs., Feb. 27. The service-based group brought a variety of art supplies to the house and led kids in crafts after dinner was provided to them by another volunteer group. The coordinators shared that this was not their first time coming to this nationwide nonprofit organization.

For the past four years, Concordia Cares has visited the Ronald McDonald House and done almost every volunteer opportunity guests can do. From buying and preparing dinner for the guests to helping maintenance clean the house

from top to bottom, Concordia's service group has made an effort to come back to the house and build relationships with the kids.

Jessica Washington, a senior and one of the Concordia Cares coordinators, told me about one girl who has stood out to her. Washington said, "There is always this one girl who comes in just as we are about to clean up. Even if we were only scheduled to stay until 8 p.m., she makes us stay as long as she wants us to. She runs the show and we totally let her."

While Concordia Cares has been a faithful group to the Ronald McDonald House in Orange, LEAD's Concordia Cares does plan volunteer outings to other non-profit organizations throughout Orange County. From working with homeless shelters to food banks, Concordia

Cares aims to serve those of all kinds both on and off campus. Washington added, "When planning events, we try to find volunteer opportunities that don't cater to only one need. We like planning events that work with people of all ages and give us the chance to learn something we otherwise wouldn't at Concordia."

Although there are plenty of ways volunteers can serve at the Ronald McDonald House, Concordia Cares has chosen to do crafts with the kids the past few times they have volunteered. Ashlin Morey, junior and Concordia Cares coordinator, said, "You'd be surprised by how far a few dollars spent at Dollar Tree goes for these kids. Even if it doesn't seem like a big deal to us, it means the world to them that we are there and wanting

to hang out with them." If you or a group you know would like to participate in leading a craft at the Ronald McDonald House, their website (rmhsc.volunteerhub.com) includes a calendar of every available date, time and activity throughout the year.

Even if you were unable to attend the Ronald McDonald House event this week, Concordia Cares has plenty of other events for students to sign up for. For

instance, Concordia Cares is planning on volunteering at the Discovery Cube in Santa Ana at one of their most popular events, Bubblefest, as well as a beach clean up at Huntington Beach. Interested in volunteering with Concordia Cares this semester? Contact david.gomez1@cu.edu or visit the Center for Student Leadership Development (CSLD) to learn more about these awesome opportunities.



Making it through midterms and finals

ARWYN YIM
STAFF WRITER

With mid-semester break around the corner, starting after Fri., Feb. 28, some students and faculty want to share some tips for getting through the midterm grind. Here are the top five tips and tricks that some of our Eagles use to make it over the hump. Already done with midterms? Then pocket these tips for finals.

1. Start early. Christ College professor CJ Armstrong tells students that the "best way to get through midterms is to start by studying for the exam in week 1 and build the habit so you're always studying for it through the next several weeks." The key to success is hard work and many people on campus agree

that putting in the work from the very beginning is a person's best bet. However, if you're just feeling the midterm struggle now, keep reading to learn how to help yourself through it.

2. Don't take on too much at once. Sometimes the workload can feel pretty unmanageable. To tackle this, make sure you're working on one thing at a time at a reasonable pace. There's no reason to rush anything so put the proper time and effort in for each assignment or test to make sure that you're showing your best work. Forrest McFarland, senior and ASCUI Communications Director, advises his peers to "break things into smaller objectives and reward yourself when you've completed them."

Positive reinforcement is a good way to make yourself get things done.

3. Get organized. Try compiling a list of all the things you need to get done so that you can visually check off each one of your assignments. If that doesn't work for you, you can line up a series of post notes on your wall with reminders and due dates. Just find a way to be able to organize all the work that you need to get done so that you can have a clear idea of where you want to start. "I recommend deactivating social media accounts and planning out a study schedule ahead of time," said Benjamin Lang, senior. This way you can cut the distraction of notifications and mobile games and make sure

you get things done on time.

4. Get out of your room. We often get stuck in our dorms as a place to finish assignments and get readings done. A change of scenery often helps with changing up a dull study routine. "I feel like I'm always stressed, but sitting in places with good vibes usually makes me feel at least a little better," said Hannah Gagon, senior. She went on to say that she likes to designate her room as a relaxing space and the space outside of the BMC as a work space. Head out to the UTC, a nearby Starbucks or even the library for a study focused environment.

5. Put yourself in the right headspace. Playing the right music while you're studying is a good way to focus your brain

for soaking up information. Dr. Jeff Mallinson recommends that students, "Go into a zone with ear buds and listen to never ending dub. I don't care what your usual favorite genre is. For stressful times, it must be dub." He actually made a playlist featuring this electronic reggae genre titled "Taosurfing with Dub, Etc." on the Taosurfers YouTube channel for this exact reason. You can look it up yourself for some chill study music or enjoy whatever music relaxes you.

We are almost halfway through Spring 2020 and the pressure is on, but following these tips will help to ensure that we can all slide through spring semester with ease. Good luck to everyone and happy studying!

Five ways to spend spring break in O.C.

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Spring break is finally here, and if a resort in Mexico is not on your agenda, these five activities can be. Here are some fun and budget friendly spring break adventures to do around Orange County.

Grab your friends and a bonfire pit at the beach and roast some hotdogs. From Huntington to San Clemente, fire pits are free and easy to use. Just make sure to have someone bring firewood and a lighter, or you and your marshmallows are going to stay pretty cold. Some beaches close at 10 p.m., so make sure you are out of the parking lot or you will be ticketed!

Take a hike! Orange County is home to some amazing wilderness areas with hikes that range from half a mile, to 20. If you want something on the easier side, the Bolsa Chica Wetlands offer trails that can last up to four miles, but with very minimal elevation gain. There are parking fees, so make



PHOTO ABOVE : Red Rock Canyon located in Foothill Ranch.

sure to bring cash. You can find more information here: wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/Bolsa-Chica-ER.

For people who want more than three feet in elevation, but still a moderately easy trail, Red Rock Canyon in Foothill Ranch might be for you. Nestled in the hills, it might shock you at the drastic change in scenery which makes it well worth the drive.

You have to pay for parking, but the machine does take a card. For more information, visit: ocparks.com/parks/whiting/.

And for those who love a challenge, Santiago Peak on Saddleback Mountain is the one for you. Coming in at around 15 miles and 5,300 foot elevation, this eight hour hike is beautiful but not for the faint of heart. For more information, visit:

fs.usda.gov/recarea/cleveland/recarea/?recid=81640.

Ride the big orange balloon – an Orange County classic! For \$15 you can take a 400-foot trip in the air. While the balloon rides are closed Monday through Wednesday, you can soar nearly all-day Thursday through Sunday high above Irvine's Great Park. For more information visit: cityofirvine.org/orange-county-great-park/great-park-balloon-carousel.

If you're a fan of recycling old clothes and treasure hunting for vintage finds, Orange County hosts some of the best thrift shops. Here are a couple of popular stores nearby that are not Goodwill but are still environmentally friendly.

Cherry Moon, a hole in the wall right up against the beach, boasts the epitome of Laguna Beach history and culture. You will find everything from vintage records to rare clothing. The address is: 652 S Coast Hwy, Laguna Beach, CA 92651.

Uptown Cheapskate, located a minute from the 5 freeway in Lake Forest, is a place where you cannot only buy the latest fashions, but also sell yours too. You can get 30% in cash, and it is a simple way to get rid of some of those t-shirts you haven't worn in months. The address is: 24366 Rockfield Blvd, Lake Forest, CA 92630.

Roller coasters are not the cheapest on the list, but Knotts Berry Farm is a must-do. A single day ticket is \$47, whereas if you want to get a season pass you can make payments as low as \$13.50 a month. If you want to pay in full, it is \$102. There are no blackout dates and during the school year the crowds are minimal.

Whether you are spending spring break on campus, or need something to do on the weekends, these five ideas may push you to do things you may normally forget about, or just get you out of the house to explore another side of Orange County.

Seuss' reading celebration



March 2 marks the birthday of the late Dr. Seuss, a man whose writings influenced the development of a nation. Seuss' birthday is commonly used in children's classrooms as a day dedicated entirely to reading.

Dr. Seuss, real name Theodor Seuss Geisel, was an author who began his writing career in 1921. Seuss began writing children's stories in 1936, and with the exception of a short break during World War II, wrote consistently until his death in 1990. Seuss'

was a major increase in literacy among children in the mid 1950s, with his publishing of the classic "The Cat in The Hat," which was intended to use words that first graders would recognize.

He went on to write many books in this style, with the intention of teaching younger audiences to read and write fluently, while also training them to use their imagination to develop themselves. Even today, the impact of Seuss' writings can be felt in everyday life.

Hannah Christian, sophomore, spoke about

on not and said, Dr. Seuss books fueled my imagination and challenged my early preconceptions about what a typical book should look like. His rhymes and use of unfamiliar words pushed me to develop my vocabulary and strengthened my confidence in reading. It inspired me to be creative in my writing and artwork and showed me just how enjoyable reading could be." Christian continued, "Even as a college student, I smile whenever I read Dr. Seuss' stories, because I think there is great value in returning to what inspired

us as children. I think one of the greatest appeals to Dr. Seuss' work is his venture into the whimsical. In his books, anything is possible, even that which a child – or adult – has not yet imagined."

Many have wondered what exactly made Seuss' simple storytelling so effective and attractive to all audiences. "I think they have an appeal because they are enjoyable without being complex. Yet Dr. Seuss's particular word choice and storytelling approach bring everyone from early childhood to late adulthood together," said Christian, adding, "People can have very different backgrounds, life experiences, callings, opinions and worldviews, yet they can come together and bond over a story."

Ben Levy, freshman, said "I think all of his books are similar to nursery rhymes which are pretty well known by almost everyone, and most of those have moral lessons as well; he brought that aspect to a different type of storytelling. They were very easy to read and are based a lot on pictures and rhymes which intrigue young people and old ones too.

It helps them comprehend the stories."

Seuss dedicated much of his life to helping others in becoming more literate and learned. In 1995, UC San Diego's library was renamed the Geisel Library in honor of Seuss' contributions and devotion to improving literacy, and in 2004, U.S. Children's Librarians established the annual Theodor Seuss Geisel award to recognize children's books that had distinguished themselves above and beyond others in their field.

"There is a certain smile people only wear when they recall a fond memory from childhood, a faraway look in their eyes that brighten as they remember something that made them happy," said Christian. "In my conversations with college students and adults, I have seen this look time and time again when Dr. Seuss's work is mentioned. I think his books have such great impact because of their ability to bring people together, a value that should never be underestimated."

To read more about Dr. Seuss' contributions, visit seussville.com.

Calling all coffee lovers

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LOCAL/GLOBAL EDITOR

Coffee enthusiasts from all over the world united this past weekend in Costa Mesa. The O.C. Fair & Event Center hosted the 2020 U.S. Coffee Championships Qualifier Event from Feb. 21 to 23. It was an enthralling weekend filled with competition and coffee lovers alike. The event consisted of five different competitions:

1.U.S. Barista Championship

The Los Angeles Times described this competition as very challenging. During this round, the baristas have to "to prepare and serve espressos, cappuccinos, and a customized drink for a panel of judges."

2.U.S. Brewers Cups

The U.S. Brewers Cup was a unique category as it required the use of different manual brewing styles. Mikayla Butler, a freshman on the track and field team and barista at Starbucks, highlights the skill it takes when it comes to manual brewing. "Doing different manual brewing styles would be very difficult as the technique is so important. You have to make sure to



PHOTO ABOVE : People try a variety of coffee from all over the world during the U.S Coffee Championships Qualifier Event at the OC Fair & Event Center. Photo courtesy of James Carbonne.

balance the amount of time it takes to measure out and grind the coffee with the amount of customer service needed at that time," said Butler.

3.Coffee in Good Spirits

This round required the contestants to make signature coffee cocktails. Once again, the contestants had to elevate their creativity. Roberto Rodriguez, a barista from Boston, designed an exciting coffee and piña colada mix that both shocked and delighted the judges with how well the flavor combination worked out.

4.Cup Tasters

The Cup Tasters round hit close to home for two students. This round required the contestants to integrate unusual tastes and smells, ones that would not typically be associated with coffee. Juniors, Kaliska Calderon and Shaye Levengood, said this round reminded them of their favorite Orange County coffee shop, Philz Coffee. Philz Coffee is unique as it brews your cup on the spot with flavors individualized by your choosing. "When

you walk into Philz, the barista customizes your drink based on your preferences! It's so good, not burnt or overly sweetened with a ton of syrups, just a blend that is individualized for you with cream and sugar! It's perfect every time," said Levengood. Taylor Sullivan was the barista who represented Philz Coffee in the Cup Tasters event and ended the event in 16th place. "It's cool to see Philz being able to compete at such a high level. They deserve the

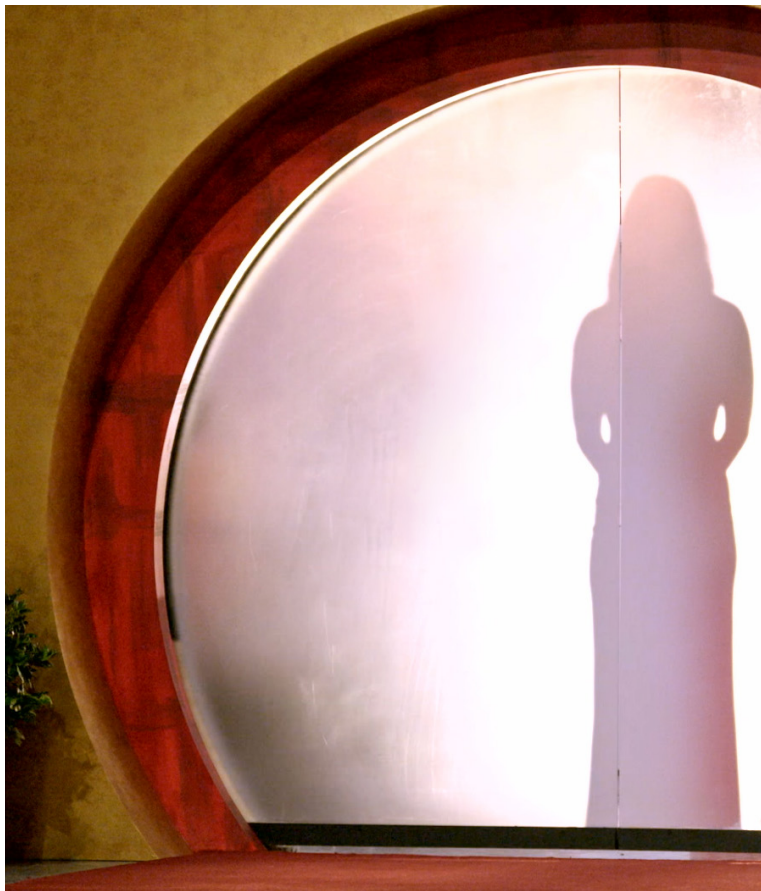
recognition," said Calderon.

5.RoastersChampionships

The last round consisted of an onsite demonstration. Here the contestants were not only judged on their coffee-making abilities but also their public speaking skills. Lauren Bristow, a senior and advanced public speaking student, knows first hand the difficulties that accompany a demonstration speech."From participating in demonstration speeches myself, I admire these competitors for going through the intense work necessary to give a great demonstration speech as it's not easy," said Bristow.

The overall winners from each of these competitions continue to the Portland Championships. If they succeed in the Portland competition then, they will go on to represent the U.S. at the World Championships in Melbourne, Australia. To follow along with the competitions check out: uscoffeechampionships.org or follow U.S. Coffee Championships page on Facebook for regular updates @uscoffeechamps

Is Love Blind?



TAYLOR SAMEC
ARTS EDITOR

Netflix has a new series titled, “Love is Blind,” which takes on a new style of dating. The series premiered on Thurs. Feb. 13, with five episodes. Netflix released the next five episodes on Thurs. Feb. 20, and the final five episodes yesterday, Feb. 27. The show is unique and different because it puts 30 single men and women into one house, but separate rooms so the men and women cannot see each other.

The new dating show is hosted by Nick and Vanessa Lachey, who give the directions of this love experiment to the contestants and viewers in the first few minutes of the first episode. The purpose of this show is to discover if love is blind, can people fall for each other without knowing what they look like?

The contestants may only talk to the opposite sex when they enter an individual pod where they can speak through a wall that is separating them. Once the couples find someone they feel they have formed an emotional bond with, they have the opportunity to get engaged. The man can propose to the woman, and if she accepts, they finally get to meet in person.

However, the show does not end there. After the engagement, the couple gets to go on a romantic getaway to Mexico where they can experience some alone time and form a deeper bond. After the luxurious trip, they come back to reality and live in the same apartment to see if they can handle living together in the real world. Last, there is a wedding where the couple will become husband and wife officially.

Oh, by the way, this all happens within 38 days.

The hour-long reality show has many people talking, including senior, Hailey O’Neil. “The show is crazy, I could not even imagine accepting a proposal from someone I barely met and marrying them less than a month later,” said O’Neil. She also compared the Netflix series to another crazy dating series, “Love is Blind” reminds me of the show, ‘Married at First Sight,’ where the couples first see each other when the bride walks down the aisle.”

With spring break finally beginning, the timing of the entire series of “Love is Blind” being released could not be more perfect. If students are looking for an entertaining, new show to watch, spending the break binge-watching “Love is Blind” may be the ideal activity.

Curry Up and check out this restaurant now!



PHOTO ABOVE: Karol Bagh Kitty Party; (Right to Left) Naan bread, Saag Paneer, Daal Lentos, Tikka Masala, Salsa, Papera, and Mango with Buttermilk included

MIYLAN EUBANKS,
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On Jan., 29, Curry Up, Now celebrated their grand opening in the Irvine Spectrum. The restaurant is very well known for dishes like the Naughty Naan, Tikka Masala Burrito and Sexy Fries. The restaurant kicked off their opening by offering a free meal to their first 100 customers.

Irvine Spectrum offers a widely diverse selection of food and entertainment. Curry Up, Now fits right into this category. The restaurant has a very open environment, surrounded by vibrant colors and an upbeat atmosphere. The servers were very kind and informative, taking the time to explain each small dish, its ingredients, and how each portion is supposed to be eaten.

Finding this restaurant, I stumbled inside not knowing what to expect only to find that Curry Up, Now is not your average Joe Blow of an Indian restaurant. The menu embraces different cultures, while still remaining true to classic Indian cuisine.

The exquisite flavors brought a new name to traditional Indian food and spices, as we know it. Just like the menu, the atmosphere of people who filled the tables and served in the kitchen was just as diverse. “It was a culturally eye-opening experience. I did know from the start that I would enjoy myself so much,” said Isaiah Martinez, freshman.

The dish that I sampled was called the Karol Bagh Kitty Party. In this platter, each small dish was incredibly different in flavor and texture. They all paired off so well together, like an

unexpectedly good blind date. On the platter included: Tikka Masala chicken which included chicken with curry sauce, Saag Paneer consisting of Spanish and vegetarian cubes of chicken, Turmeric rice, Daal Lentils, lentils with curry sauce and Papera, a crunchy tortilla eaten with salsa or tikka sauce. The dish was complemented with a mango buttermilk drink.

The Tikka Masala chicken had a flavor that hits the taste buds right on beat. The Saag Paneer offered a savory vegetarian alternative that was drenched in creamy spinach. And I’d liken devouring the Naan bread to having a supportive parent at a soccer game. You didn’t know you needed it until it was there to hold everything. The Daal Lentils were much like the vegetable you always saved last as a kid, but did not mind eating once you had it. It was well-seasoned and easy to detect as a saturated source of protein. Finally came the mango smoothie. It was very thick and had a well balanced variation of sweet and tart.

At the end of my dining experience, I walked away full and fulfilled, with the sentiment that both my time and money had been valued and spent well. Curry Up, Now offers a dining experience that is truly one of a kind. It is very kid friendly and affordable. This place is a perfect spot for a night out with a group of friends or a casual date night.

For more information visit [Yelp.com](https://www.yelp.com)

You suck at cooking, but you don't have to anymore

MEILINDA LOPEZ
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College students are notorious for being atrocious cooks. This could be due to the lack of time, space and supplies available for them to practice. With the YouTube channel, “You Suck At Cooking,” students can learn how to prepare delicious dishes in a simple yet entertaining manner.

The videos mirror other cooking channels by starting with listing the ingredients then takes you through each step of the recipe. However, his channel is unique in its delivery. There is a sense of self-awareness that translates itself into comedy even with its name “You Suck At Cooking” and its theme song lyrics “You suck at cooking, yeah, you totally suck.”

“You Suck At Cooking” uploaded its first episode on Jan. 13, 2015. The episode was about how to make guacamole. This video utilized profane and spiteful language in order to create a comedic video that provided to be very successful

at the time and attracted over two million views.

The channel just reached its 100th video two months ago. Today the channel has a recipe book, merchandise and social media such as Instagram and Facebook.

While videos uploaded today still have some profanity, most tend to rely more on editing to create comedy. This is most often shown with food being thrown against the wall for it to come back chopped and ready to be cooked.

The videos uploaded are also easy to follow, especially with the slow pace and on screen written instructions along the way. They give plenty of explanation on how to make filling dinners like chili to fancy desserts to show off to your family during breaks like lemon blueberry scones.

Videos are uploaded to YouTube every Tuesday and there is a simplified recipe in the description box of every video. All videos also have a written manuscript available to read on the channel’s external website: yousuckatcooking.net.

I highly recommend taking a look at this channel if the cafeteria is closed or you just want to try something new. Scan the QR code below to be sent to their YouTube channel home screen or look up “You Suck At Cooking” on any search engine to find their videos.

