

THE CONCORDIA  
**COURIER**  
 INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

Volume 14, Issue 6

Concordia University Irvine

Friday, November 22, 2019

# Meet Concordia's incoming president Dr. Michael Thomas

Isabelle Upchurch,  
 Staff Writer

On Thurs., Nov. 14, Dr. Michael Thomas was on campus and sat down to discuss his vision for students and Concordia. His term as the university's fifth president begins on Jan. 6, 2020.

Thomas is currently on faculty at Concordia University Portland. The transition to Concordia Irvine felt like the right career move, yet the path was unexpected. "I never had in mind that I would serve as a president," Thomas explained, "When I was nominated, I received some advice from a missionary that I knew. He said, 'you need to apply and you need to let God and the community tell you no.'"

Thomas listened to this advice. "I decided to apply and I started to walk through those open doors," he explained.

As Thomas has served as the Executive Director of the Lutheran Institute for Theology and Culture and a Professor of Religion in Portland, he understands the importance of faith and how it applies to all of the faculty, staff and students on campus. He said, "Concordia University Irvine teaches us to take what we know and serve and love others. Every student, whether they are Christian or not, is welcome on our campus. We hope that faculty and staff are showing students the love of Christ, the sacrificial love and the 'love thy neighbor' love."

A new president on campus means exciting times for all, but especially for students. Thomas said his hope is for students to, "find in me a caring individual who puts students and their families at the center of everything I do. I see the leadership pyramid as inverted and I think students and their families are at the core of all we do," said Thomas. "I also love a good laugh and you'll see me around campus a lot. I get my energy from students," he continued.

Along with getting to know students, Thomas is also passionate about the student voice being heard by upper administration. He said, "In a formal way, I would like to meet with ASCUI once a month to bring concerns to me. One thing students will learn about me is that I will be on campus when I'm not traveling and you will see me in the dining room, in chapel, walking around, or maybe even baking cookies for studying students in the library. Students will see me around so they can stop and say 'hey' whenever they want." "My plan for the first 90 days is to lean in and listen. I think it's very crucial for me to learn this culture," Thomas continued.

Students can expect Thomas to be engaged and intentional about his interactions with students. "I want students to know that they can stop me, say 'hi,' and chat. I hope if they see me in the caf, they'll pull up a chair and sit with me," Thomas said, adding, "Even though I'll be more



PICTURED ABOVE: ASCUI President Isabelle Upchurch and new President, Dr. Michael Thomas

behind the scenes, I still want students to treat me like their other professors."

Students can expect to see a lot more of Thomas as his presidency officially begins next semester. Thomas follows Concordia's fourth president, Dr. Kurt Krueger, whose career in higher education as a scholar and administrator spans almost 50 years.

As ASCUI president I'd like to thank Dr. Krueger for his leadership and years of service, and welcome Dr. Thomas! My advice to

Dr. Thomas is: Definitely participate in "I heart CUI" and help serve food to students in the caf, it's always a tradition students appreciate! Actively engage with students around campus. You have the opportunity as our new president to establish your own unique, approachable tone and I think students will love that.

*Isabelle Upchurch is a staff writer for the Courier and president of ASCUI.*

## Getting to know Dr. Thomas

Isabelle Upchurch,  
 Staff Writer

Dr. Michael Thomas is eager to begin to get to know students, and students should be excited to get to know him as well. Here are a few fun facts about our new university president.

Q: What is your favorite hobby?

A: Riding motorcycles! I have a Triumph Bobber.

Q: What's your favorite food?

A: Thai food.

Q: Do you have any pets?

A: Yes, I have two dogs. We have a Frenchie and a Boston. When my daughter moves here, she expects our dogs to be the campus pets.

Q: What are you most looking forward to about living in Southern California?

A: This sounds cliché, but being able to entertain on the patio of the president's house.

Q: Who will you entertain on your patio?

A: I want to have everyone over: students, alumni, faculty, staff and donors. I would love to connect students with donors too.

Q: I know you've traveled a lot. Where is your favorite place you've travelled?

A: Italy or the Greek Islands.

Q: What are your top three places you want to travel to that you haven't been to?

A: Vietnam, Russia, but my ultimate dream is to ride my motorcycle all the way to the tip of South America.

Q: What is an interesting fact about yourself that you'd like people to know?

A: I am a first generation college graduate.



## ATW® Update: Israel and Uganda

LUCAS SENKBEIL AND  
NATHAN MACGREGOR,  
STAFF WRITERS

The flight to Uganda was short and simple. After the bustle of Israel, the reprieve was very much needed. As the finale of our tour through the holy land, Jerusalem presented itself as a sparkling jewel that glinted and glimmered in the hearts of people from every corner of the Earth. Eager merchants hawked holy books from every religion imaginable. The pages of each sacred text pressed against its neighbors until they furled upwards, reminiscent of the four districts in the old town.

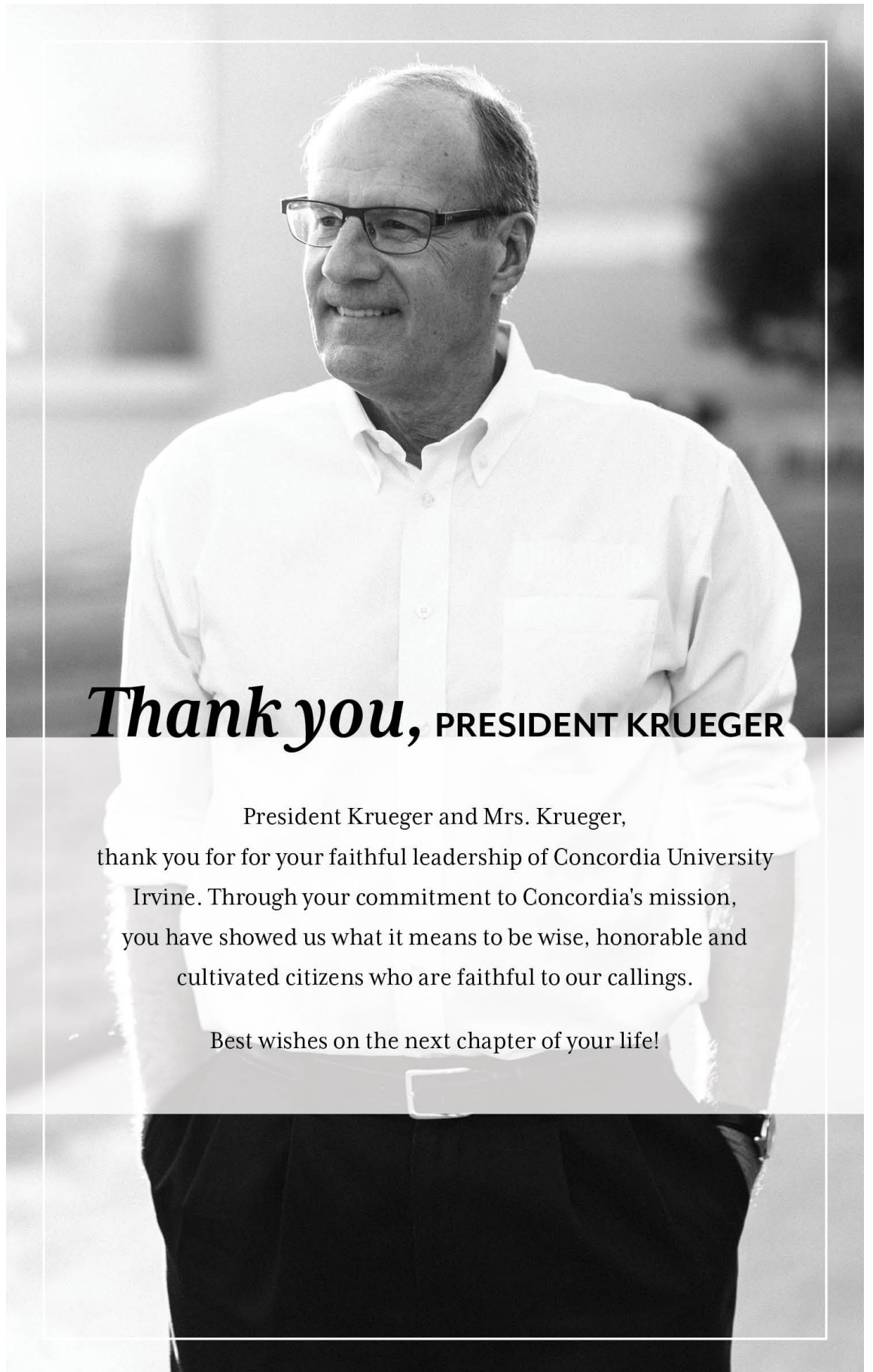
The many locations tied to the events of the Gospel were of importance to our group. We visited the Western Wall known as the Wailing Wall; famous for being one of the only accessible portions of the original Second Temple complex. A waterlogged walk through Hezekiah's Tunnel gave a breath of life to the happenings in the Old Testament's City of David, while a jaunt up the Mount of Olives allowed us to observe Gethsemane and the vistas Christ viewed before the Ascension.

Every cramped alley was crammed full of archaic Biblical lore and every clearing in the buildings was inevitably the site of some important event. Following the trend of the city's design,

our schedule was similarly stuffed. We scurried from location to location, devouring whatever morsels of knowledge were imparted through a series of guides, locals and professors. A convergence of three of the world's most prominent religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Jerusalem was a discordant cacophony of piety. The clamor only ended when our flight out of Tel Aviv took off the ground.

In the dreamy flux of our 24-hour travel day, we were all given chances to digest the Biblical knowledge we had painstakingly absorbed.

Arriving in Jinja, Uganda, we were given the chance to explore the ministry of Christ in the same way we had just explored His home. Red dirt paved a curving path through banana trees and cassava fields. In a village only a 10 minute walk from the Youth With A Mission (YWAM) compound we stayed in, a contingent of our team set to work reconstructing damaged homes. We pumped out water, we stomped on dirt, we mixed both to make mud to spread over the cracks in the walls of a house, all set to the background sounds of children giggling at us. These same children, still finishing their jokes, joined us later for frisbee amidst hot rains and scarlet sunsets. The methodical work and play of our start in Uganda has set a new rhythm for our travels.



### Thank you, PRESIDENT KRUEGER

President Krueger and Mrs. Krueger,  
thank you for your faithful leadership of Concordia University  
Irvine. Through your commitment to Concordia's mission,  
you have showed us what it means to be wise, honorable and  
cultivated citizens who are faithful to our callings.

Best wishes on the next chapter of your life!

# THE CONCORDIA COURIER

INVESTIGATE. INFORM. IGNITE. INVOLVE.

Sarah Kretschmar, *Editor-in-Chief*

Alexis Rios, *Local/Global Editor*

Emma Mocharnuk, *Sports Editor*

Charlotte Waite, *Campus Editor*

Taylor Samec, *Arts/Entertainment Editor*

Leah Gong, *Layout Editor*

Caroline Janik-Wong, *Faculty Advisor*

#### Writers

Caroline Bartels, *Carlie Chaulsett-Utley, Leesa Fregin, Dante Johnson, Emily Lawless, Logan Mahaffy, Emily Mullins, Grant Nutt, Philip Quartararo, Jake Ricci, Renae Ross, Dailynn Santoro, Michael E. Smith, Grant Stuart, Isabelle Upchurch, Sierra Venegas, Jasmine Washington, Daija Chumley, Caitie Fulton, Trevor Hopper, Brooke Jackson, Payton Kubalsky, Caralin Nunes, Giovanni Brito, Kelly Ogas and Daniel Castagnola*

Don't forget to "like" us

on The Concordia Courier Facebook page. You'll find links to PDFs of old issues and updates on our current work. Videos previewing the most recent issue will be posted as well.

Follow us on Instagram  
@ConcordiaCourier too!

Comments? Suggestions?  
We want to hear from you.  
Write a "Letter to the Editor."  
drafts.courier@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor must be typed and include the author's full name and telephone number. Letters that are printed may be edited for space and content. Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Concordia Courier*.

The opinions expressed in *The Concordia Courier* are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the administration, faculty, staff or student body of Concordia University. Editorials reflect the views of the majority of the editorial staff.

1530 Concordia West, Irvine CA, 92612  
Delta Lounge  
final.courier@gmail.com  
cui.edu/studentlife/student-newspaper

The Courier staff asks that you dispose of your copy in an environmentally-friendly way. Thanks!



# The Heritage Garden is open to all students



PICTURED ABOVE: Students work with beehives in Heritage Garden. Photo courtesy of cui.edu.

LEESA FREGIN,  
STAFF WRITER

If you have dined in the café since 2013, would you like to see exactly where some of the fresh fruits, vegetables and herbs have grown? Or would you like to bask in a bit of nature and enjoy a refreshingly sweet

smell of outdoors? The Heritage Garden has got you covered. Located right on campus, these 5-acres house a greenhouse, 40-bed community garden, fruit and nut orchard, apiary, prayer garden and an array of native Southern California plants.

The mission of

Concordia's Heritage Garden is to bless others by cultivating a space for students, staff and the community to lead, to learn and to serve. "This is a non-competitive space for being outdoors and adding to the environment. In today's hectic climate where mental health is at a premium, the garden provides a healthy escape from the pressure," said Dr. Michael Schulteis, Professor of Science Education. He added, "The community garden area has brought in people that are not specifically faculty, staff and students to share in the glory of our campus."

As the Heritage Garden is nurtured, it will nurture the community in turn. Not only with its harvest, but with its beauty. The previously vacant land serves as a reminder to slow down and appreciate the simpler things in life.

Quick pointers for your visit:

- While walking through the entire garden is more than welcome, picking the produce is discouraged since much of it is donated to the café for student meals.
- Only service animals are allowed into the garden.
- All forms of smoking are prohibited.

If you would like to get more involved on campus or are seeking more extracurricular activities, the Heritage Garden Club serves as an opportunity to harvest produce for the café, take part in ecological research and more. The Beekeeping Club offers a chance for students to lend a hand in maintaining beehives in the apiary and work on developing a business plan for the sale of honey.

While leaps and bounds have been made, there is always more to be done.

"Gardening is labor intensive and if we have more people, we can dream even bigger with what we might be able to do. I would love to see something like a vine trail created between the Garden and small chapel that is lined with various grape varieties, passion fruit and other edible vines," Dr. Schulteis said. To find out more or support the Heritage Garden, visit [cui.edu/studentlife/studentleadership/heritage-garden](http://cui.edu/studentlife/studentleadership/heritage-garden).

For more information on the Garden Club or Beekeeping Club, contact Matther Tirapelli at [matthew.tirapelli@eagles.cui.edu](mailto:matthew.tirapelli@eagles.cui.edu). Regarding volunteer inquiries or adopting a garden bed, contact Professor Tyler Zarubin at [tyler.zarubin@cui.edu](mailto:tyler.zarubin@cui.edu).

## Concordia Christmas is Here!

KATIE DePOL,  
ASCUI SECRETARY

Concordia Christmas is HAPPENING! President Krueger graciously funded Concordia Christmas this year. If you see President Krueger in the halls, give him a high five and a big "thank you" for funding this event. Concordia Christmas is FREE and is taking place Thurs., Dec. 5 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the gym.

This year, Concordia Christmas consists of a live nativity hosted by abbeywest, a hot chocolate bar and a variety of Christmas desserts. There will also be a mechanical bull and wipeout inflatable for you to test your dodging skills. LEAD, RES and abbeywest are sponsoring activity tables consisting of candy cane wreaths, DIY ornaments and the opportunity to write letters

to children who are in the hospital during Christmas.

For those who attend Concordia Christmas and who participate in Christmas Crawl, they will be entered into the raffle contest to win Apple AirPods. The Christmas Crawl is a way to earn raffle tickets for the raffle contest. Students can go around to the different activities at Concordia Christmas and earn stamps. For every two stamps, the student will receive one raffle ticket. This means that they can receive up to three raffle tickets. At the end of the night, we'll raffle off three prizes to the first, second and third place winner. Each participant must be present at the time of the raffle and must be a current student.

We'll also be handing out Concordia Christmas t-shirts to the first 100 students who arrive. Get pumped for Concordia Christmas and get there as soon as you can to receive your free shirt!

## End of Semester Word Search

S W O R K L O A D S X K T P C R P Q R K M M H F R  
 F E Q D P T J A P U V Z R C I F R T E A R L K K M  
 F P N M X N J J Q C D O B X N G E A T K J M V C V  
 A O C I O X X L S C F Y J J A I S M S E A Z K O C  
 Z O V I L H P F E E D K E H P F E J E B Q E I P T  
 Q E T P R D L E S S Z L K X C E N B M P C F R F V  
 T L B E P Q A S N S B O J X L O T X E Y Q J L B K  
 H U P H S A O E V Z N D E X B W A D S V G O L A T  
 H A R F K R R U D K T B Q G D P T C J E O E I L I  
 P Y U W S Q N T G J J S J F E D I J L H Z B B M Z  
 M P O A V S N F C X X L E M X H O I F A I O C K R  
 E W M G T I K S J R L V N F G F N A W C S T Q K G  
 Y G K R A O R K O U W N E G E J L V I S F S B K S  
 V R E F F R K K R K D V N V Y U I L Y G Q Q E H U  
 Q S C W L T V U V R Z I N D K C R L G I S F N S G  
 S C Z A R L M D S I N W Z T N E M N G I S S A J A  
 F X Y N H D C Y Q R R Y A R T K C L X W Z C B D L  
 G E K U X R Y N A T E S T E T J P A C V S F Z B W  
 R F R D W X Y E U T V P S Q R A V L B O A J C J E  
 Y D U T S M L A Z P X E R J X D X M O K S R L T V

- |            |              |            |
|------------|--------------|------------|
| ASSIGNMENT | BREAK        | CLASSES    |
| DEADLINES  | LEARNING     | PANIC      |
| PAPER      | PRESENTATION | PROFESSORS |
| SEMESTER   | STRESS       | STUDY      |
| SUCCESS    | TEST         | WORKLOAD   |



# Eagle of the Week

## Newport Rib Company Eagle of the Week: Maddie Dodge

BEN ROSEHART,  
SPORTS INFORMATION  
DIRECTOR

After claiming two individual victories and also contributing a pair of second-place finishes at the Soka Invite, Eagles senior Maddie Dodge has been named Newport Rib Company Eagle of the Week for the week of Nov. 11.

Dodge won both the 200 free and 200 IM on Saturday to help the Eagles take first place out of eight women's teams. Dodge also hustled to a second place finish in the 100 free and teamed up with sophomore Katelyn Thomas, junior Mikayla Jean and freshman Amanda Foley to take second in the



PICTURED ABOVE: Courtesy of Troy Makalena

women's medley relay to cap off a fantastic day in the pool.

"This past weekend we had very fierce competition with having Fresno Pacific and Azusa Pacific there," explained Dodge. "I was very satisfied with my swims

knowing I was beating some really great competitors," she continued.

"She is likely our most versatile women's swimmer," said head coach Bert Bergen. "She does freestyle sprints up to 200 yards, can swim breaststroke and is a

dynamic IMer (two lengths of each of the four strokes). Given the opportunity, I knew she'd be extremely competitive up at a 500 freestyle or either the 100 butterfly or backstroke events. Winning two events and chasing Fresno Pacific's All-American 100 freestyler to the wall in that event Saturday was gutsy, gritty and energizing," said Bergen.

It was a breakthrough performance for the Eagles across the board. The men's swimming and diving team also emerged victorious on Sat., finishing first out of seven competing schools. Fresno Pacific placed second on both the men's and women's sides directly behind Concordia.

"I am so proud of my team for coming together and taking first place over some very fast teams last weekend," said Dodge. "The team did a fantastic job with

cheering on one another and motivating each other before and after our races. This is one of the first meets where we have held our own against Fresno Pacific, with both the men's and women's team. This motivation and determination will lead us to a very successful rest of the season and conference," said Dodge.

"Maddie is as conscientious a person as she is dedicated as a swimmer," added Bergen. "She is wonderfully coachable, mature, focused and determined. She also happens to be thoughtful team co-captain and a very kind young woman. In short, an outstanding human," he continued.

Dodge was also nominated for PCSC DII Athlete-of-the-Week based upon her efforts at the meet Saturday at Soka.



## Empower Others Through Psychology

Various fields within psychology are quickly growing and call for dedicated professionals ready to make a difference in the lives of others. Prepare for these opportunities and advance your career with a master's degree in psychology from APU.

**Choose the program that aligns with your passions and interests:**

**M.S. in Child Life**

**M.S. in Counseling Psychology with Specialization in Children and Adolescents**

**M.S. in Research Psychology and Data Analysis**

**GET STARTED TODAY!** | [apu.edu/bas/psychology](http://apu.edu/bas/psychology)



**AZUSA PACIFIC  
UNIVERSITY**

God First Since 1899



# Jadenn Carrillo earns PacWest Freshman of the Year



PICTURED ABOVE: Photo courtesy of cuieagles.com

CARLIE CHAULSETT-UTLEY,  
STAFF WRITER

Four-time Freshman of the Week, one-time PacWest Player of the Week and now PacWest Freshman of the Year, Jadenn Carrillo came to Concordia on a mission to stand out early in her soccer career.

The forward ended her freshman campaign with a team-high 11 goals, the most produced by a Concordia freshman in the program's history. She is also the first Eagle to be awarded the

PacWest freshman of the year in women's soccer and was named to the First Team All-PacWest squad.

"The nature of Jadenn's position is to score goals. Jadenn has done a great job this year of helping the team from her role," head coach Chris Gould said.

As for the awards, Carrillo says she is happy that she is being recognized as a standout player on the team and is motivated to continue to improve each week.

"Those awards mean a lot to me I was very thankful that

I got them," Carrillo said.

Carrillo credits her teammates for her success on the field. "We all want to win and we all want to play hard," Carrillo said.

Earlier in the season, in the battle of the Eagles versus Biola on Nov. 7, Carrillo came up with two big goals to secure the Concordia victory.

With 13 minutes left in the matchup, Carrillo netted a game-tying shot to tie the game at one-a-piece. Minutes later, she found the ball at her feet again. The freshman buried her shot in the back of

the net to give Concordia the lead and the eventual victory.

More recently, on Nov. 14, she came up big in overtime for the green and gold versus Dominican. 25 seconds into overtime, Carrillo fired a shot past the keeper for her sixth game-winning goal.

Carrillo finished top of the PacWest conference in the category. She finished fourth in the conference for points with 23 and goals with 11.

"Jadenn has a goalscoring instinct. I think she has played in that position for such a long time that she instinctively understands where the goal is and what type of shot is needed in any given situation. She has created her own process for executing," Gould said.

Soccer is second nature in the Carrillo family. Carrillo's older sister, McKenna, played at Concordia and graduated last year. Her oldest sister, Breanna, played soccer at the PAC-12 powerhouse, the University of Utah. Carrillo's father also played collegiate soccer and he now coaches a local club organization as well as Chapman University men's soccer head coach.

"I just want to make my family proud," Carrillo said. "I just want to make sure my last name has a meaning and

when you hear my last name you know exactly who you're getting."

The Eagles finished second in the PacWest conference but it wasn't enough to earn them a spot in the playoffs.

The top-seven teams make the PacWest Regional playoffs, however the Eagles just barely missed the cut due to some rough performances in non-conference matchups.

Injuries sidelined key players this season that were crucial to the Eagles' offense; yet Gould is looking ahead to next season with optimism. "I am confident that the returning players will step up to the challenge and find their respective next level," the coach said.

Outside of school and soccer, Carrillo hangs out with her friends and visits home in Anaheim Hills as much as she can. With her busy schedule balancing her course work, D-II soccer commitments and work, Carrillo is thankful for the times she can relax no matter how few and far between they come.

You can watch Carrillo continue her dominant career in her sophomore season with the Eagles in 2020 next fall.

## Men's soccer wins final home game of season



PICTURED ABOVE: Seniors of men's soccer. Pictured from left to right: Austin Nazer, Jose Huerta, Connor Murphy, Ricardo Medina, Caley Powers

EMMA MOCHARNUK,  
SPORTS EDITOR

Sat., Nov. 9, marked victory for the Concordia men's soccer team as they took on the Point Loma Nazarene University Sea Lions. While both teams put up a tough fight, the Eagles ended up on top, taking the game in a 1-0 score. While the win alone was sweet, the game also marked the last home game ever for the graduating seniors on the team.

"I felt like the team really understood that it would be a tough yet special game. Every single player had a contribution to set the team in a position to win. After the win, you could just feel the love as they celebrated,"

said graduate assistant coach Ari Claro.

For many senior athletes, the last home game is a time to reflect on where their Concordia athletic career began and appreciate those who have been a part of the journey. "It was a great feeling to be with my brothers one more time on the field that it all started. It was emotional in the soccer sense seeing that it was my last home game but I love the fact that I've made friends that I call family along the process," said senior Ricardo Medina.

Reflecting on his last season with the Eagles, senior Jose Huerta hopes to share some of his experience with the younger players on the team by saying,

"Some advice I would give to the underclassmen is to just enjoy every single moment at Concordia. Time creeps up on you so it's important to cherish the moments on and off the field with your teammates," said Huerta.

Claro is wrapping up his first season as a graduate assistant coach for the Eagles after completing a successful soccer career with the Eagles last year. "Working with the seniors this year has been something I will always remember. Playing alongside them since they were freshman and seeing them grow as players and as people is so special and I am grateful that I have been able to be a part of their journey," said Claro.

The final season for the seniors on the squad has been a dominant one. The green and gold finished 10-7 overall and 8-3 in PacWest play which lands the team in second place.

"I am proud of how the team has been performing all season. They have been giving it their all each game throughout the season," said Huerta.

To keep up with all things Eagles soccer visit [cuieagles.com](http://cuieagles.com)

## Ben Rosehart, SID, earns CoSIDA Membership recognition

SARAH KRETSCHMAR,  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A few weeks ago, Ben Rosehart, Sports Information Director for Concordia athletics received the CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) Membership recognition. Rosehart has been the SID for all things Eagle athletics for the past two years and his hard work and dedication to each and every sports team never goes unnoticed.

Rosehart is a Philadelphia native and has previously worked in television and broadcasting for the past 12 years. He earned his degree in television broadcasting and journalism from La Salle University in Pennsylvania. He moved to southern California about 4 years ago for work and to be close to his now wife, Lori, in San Diego. He met his wife in Eastern Iowa while interviewing for the same network station. Lori and Ben have been married for two years and are expecting their first child, a baby girl, this December.

Rosehart has had the privilege of interning with the NBC

Olympics at the 2006 Winter Games in Torino, Italy and with the Philadelphia Eagles in the 2004-2005 NFL season when they made it to the Superbowl.

Rosehart said that he enjoys covering all sports and is a big fan of the Philadelphia Phillies, the Philadelphia 76ers and the Washington Redskins. Outside of sports, Rosehart enjoys playing the violin and comes from a very musical background. He also likes boardgames, playing chess and playing pickup basketball.

When asked what his favorite thing about Concordia was, he answered simply and said "the people." "I always say that I love people, sports and music. I love the energy of this college campus and how prayer is involved in many ways," said Rosehart.

The hard work and dedication of Rosehart in all aspects of sport is something very special. The support, loyalty, determination and commitment of Rosehart has no doubt propelled Concordia athletics to be the respectable and honored department that it is today.



## A review of Concordia's "Xanadu"

TAYLOR SAMEC,  
ARTS EDITOR

The Theatre Department put on a spectacular performance of "Xanadu" for the past two weekends. It was full of music, laughter, and love; definitely a feel-good performance. The musical based on the '80s movie of the same name did not disappoint and had a full house at almost every show. If you were lucky enough to have seen the production, you know it was a great show that had you laughing throughout the entire two hours!

The show started by transporting the audience to 1980 with fun costumes, music and even roller skates. The

performance had something for everyone; whether you were looking for comedy, romance, nostalgia or music, the show had it all. All the performers were amazing and so talented! The most impressive part was seeing them roller skate and sing at the same time; nobody fell, which is incredible!

One of the main stars, senior, Megan Wilkerson, had a great time being in the show and stated, "Xanadu was such a blast to put together having a variety of catchy songs, dances, accents and voices used. The cast was also spectacular; there was never a dull moment! Definitely a highlight of my time here at Concordia!"

Junior Samantha Hood was

another amazing performer in the show and stated, "Being in Xanadu was such a thrill. This show's primary goal was to escape into a fit of laughter and joy. Audiences were encouraged to let loose and give in to the silliness of the show, something I think we need a lot more of." She also went on to say, "Being a part of this show was one of the most fun things I have done. Going on stage and making people laugh created such a joy for the cast in return, it truly was a win-win situation."

The actors all worked incredibly hard to put on this amazing show and it definitely paid off. Whether it was learning how to roller skate

or memorizing all the lines, everyone in the show put a lot of effort and the audience members were thoroughly impressed seeing the final result of their hard work.

The energy level of all the actors was also fun to watch, they were all excited to be on stage and their energy exuded onto the audience. Senior, Amy Thompson, saw the show on opening night and said, "It was such a fun show! The music and lights mixed in with the actors' energy made it incredible to watch. If there were another week of shows, I would have definitely gone to see it again!"

Overall, it was a fun and incredible production; the

Theatre Department did another fantastic job and succeeded in putting on a beautiful musical! In case you missed this production, do not worry, the talented troupe is putting on more shows next semester!

"The Christians" will take place following winter break between Jan. 17 and Jan. 26. This show will be about the church and a pastor's journey of discovering new ideas about Christianity. There is a lot to look forward to from the Theatre Department following "Xanadu," for more information about the program and their productions, please visit [cui.edu/arts/theatre](http://cui.edu/arts/theatre).

## An unorthodox Netflix review; some may even call it Atypical

DANTE JOHNSON,  
STAFF WRITER

This November, Netflix released the third season of one of its most highly anticipated and ranked series, Atypical. The series was first released in August of 2017 and is centered around Sam Gardener, an eighteen-year-old boy with autism played by Keir Gilchrist, and his turbulent family.

Through the first two seasons, the series does not merely focus on Sam and everyone's interactions with him but also builds in-depth stories of the characters away from Sam. First, there is Elsa, the overprotective overstepping mother who struggles to help herself before trying to help everyone else. There is also Casey, Sam's younger sister and only sibling who refuses to treat

Sam as anything other than an older sibling. Next is Sam's best friend, Zahid, who is a classic spoof of a dorky kid trying too hard to be the coolest person in the room. Finally, there is the devoted Doug Gardner. Doug is Sam's father that struggled with his son's diagnosis at first but tries hard every day to help Sam in his day-to-day life.

In the third season, every character is dealing with their life struggles while trying to support Sam as he transitions into college. We find Sam's sister, Casey, battling with discovering herself and finding love where she did not expect to. Elsa attempts learning how to loosen her need to control people in her life as she reconciles with her past. Zahid continues to play life cool and give Sam life advice that could be considered borderline inappro-



appropriate but comical nonetheless. Sam's father, Doug, seeks out a support group of parents that have children with autism while trying to come to terms with the condition of his marriage with Elsa.

The exploration of each of these characters brings a unique perspective to each individual and how they interact with Sam and how their experiences affect the way they assist him in his

day-to-day life. The show brings a realistic approach to the screen about just how dysfunctional a family can be and also how families work through that dysfunction to deepen their bond.

In season three, Atypical really steps up the representation of actors with autism. This bump comes after mostly positive reviews through the first two seasons but with consistent criticism that a show about autism should

have actual representation. This is so the show does not provide the public with an entirely glamorized version of autism and the struggles it may come with.

All in all, I believe that this is the best season so far. It is comical, heartbreaking, warming, and by the end of it all, you walk away feeling like you know the characters and begin to silently root for them all, especially Sam. If you are a fan of Atypical and have doubts about this new third season, give it a try. For those that have not yet explored the series, I encourage you to watch the first season and see if you think it is worth watching before skipping to season three. Humanity is built on empathy. Atypical can help provide that empathy for a life perspective; you may not have been understanding of before watching the show.

## Concordia stays afloat while Hawaii volcano erupts in Irvine

RENAE ROSS,  
STAFF WRITER

This past week Concordia's women's volleyball team went up against the Hawaii triad of Chaminade, Hawaii Pacific and Hawaii Hilo, ending 2-1. The Eagles had back-to-back games starting on Wed., Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. against Chaminade then Thurs., Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. against Hawaii Pacific. Most recently, the Eagles took on Hawaii Hilo on Sat., Nov. 16 at 5 p.m.

During the Chaminade game the Eagles came out hard, despite some struggles, the Eagles came out victorious, winning the first two sets relatively easy in 25-14 followed by 25-22. "It really showed what kind of a team we were

because there were plenty of moments where we could have given in, but we decided to persevere and push ourselves and each other to beat them," said freshman middle blocker, Mackenzie Jensen. However, the Chaminade Silverswords were not willing to lie down. They came back and won the third and fourth sets in 25-23 and 25-19. Following the comeback by the Silverswords, Concordia had to make a hard decision to keep fighting or give into fatigue. Their decision to come out hard one last time was apparent from the first point to the last, with a final score of 15-11 in the fifth set. "We played very well, we were communicative, cooperative and our blocking was really on point. I like to call it the

'Great Wall of Irvine,'" said sophomore middle blocker, Hannah Tostado.

The following day brought another battle, this time triumph came a set quicker. The Eagles started off strong again, but Hawaii Pacific let them know they were not going to win that easily, establishing a score of 26 to the Eagles 24 in the first set. The Sharks really showed their teeth in the second set, finishing with a score of 25 and the Eagles finishing with 18. In the end, the Eagles came back and showed grit in the third and fourth set ending with scores of 25 to the sharks 21, and 25-20. "I think we came out against Hawaii Pacific super motivated with nothing to lose. We also did well communicating

with each other on and off the court so the flow on the court was much more consistent," said sophomore opposite, Patience O'Neal.

The last game was the true test for the Eagles against Hawaii Hilo. Hilo is Concordia associate head coach Gene Krieger's former stomping grounds. Both teams came out with their game faces on and the first set was a battle ending with scores of 25 for Hawaii Hilo and 21 for Concordia. The second set the Eagles showed their improvement from their last matchup, point after point ending with a score of 25 for Concordia and 9 for Hawaii Hilo. Unfortunately, the Vulcans were not going to be so generous again. The third and fourth sets started

with Hawaii Hilo going on long point runs, but the Eagles would fight back towards the end, putting the team back in the mix. The fight came a bit too little, too late and the Vulcans took advantage of that ending the third and fourth set 25-21 and 25-14.

The women's volleyball team is now 16-12. With only a few more games left of their season, including tonight at 7 p.m. against Notre Dame De Namur in the CU arena and tomorrow at 3 p.m. against Dominican for senior day. Watch games live and check out the team at [cui eagles.com](http://cui eagles.com).



# Drake gets booed off stage at Camp Flog Gnaw

EMILY LAWLESS,  
STAFF WRITER

The Camp Flog Gnaw festival, previously known as the OFWGKTA Carnival or Odd Future Carnival is a music festival founded by Tyler, the Creator, and is held every year at the end of October or the middle of November at Dodger Stadium.

This year the festival was hosted on Nov. 9 and 10, and starred performances by popular rappers and artists such as Drake (surprise headliner), A\$AP Rocky, YG, 21 Savage, Willow Smith, plus Tyler, the Creator himself and many others. This year's festival was one to remember as the audience had shocking reactions to Drake's arrival on stage, which has since taken over social media.

While many people pay ridiculous amounts of money,

swooning at the opportunity to see Drake perform live, to the rapper and many others' surprise, this was not the case at this year's Camp Flog Gnaw festival.

Word on the street is attendees were expecting Frank Ocean to be next up on stage after multiple rumors of him making a guest appearance. To the audience's surprise, Drake came out as a guest headliner, disproving the rumors of Ocean's potential appearance to perform. Fans began to "boo!" Drake, during the first 20 minutes of his performance at the festival, providing for a very confused Drake and Tyler, the Creator. Videos surfaced to the internet of Drake's realization as he was not getting the response from fans that he is used to, he was in shock.

Before a disappointed Drake exited the stage he said, "You know I'm gonna tell you, like I

said, I'm here for you tonight... if you want me to keep going, I will keep going tonight. What's up? If you wanna keep going I will keep going." The fans responded with mixed cheers and boos from the crowd. Drake responded, "Y'all look, it's been love, I love y'all... I go by the name of Drake. Thank you for having me," and exited the stage. Tyler, the Creator took to twitter as he announced his disappointment in the reaction of his fans after he thought bringing one of the biggest artists on the planet to his festival was, "fire." He tweeted, "LIKE, I LOVE THAT SONG AND THOUGHT THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN.....HE REALLY DID THAT FOR ME AND I APPRECIATE IT BECAUSE HE DID NOT HAVE TO COME AT ALL, SEE OUR WORLDS COME TOGETHER WAS SO GREAT IN THEORY." Video's also surfaced as Tyler

was seen dancing to Drake's popular songs, "Feel No Ways," and further tweeting his disappointment that he missed another of Drake's singles, "Hotline Bling," as it was up next before Drake decided to exit the stage.

Drake has since posted to Instagram, captioning a photo from the festival, "Plot twist... just signed a 10 year residency at Camp Flog Gnaw sorry kids see you EVERY SINGLE YEAR till you are 30," to provide some comic relief and make light of the unusual incident for him. Stay tuned to see if Drake makes good on his "residency" at Camp Flog Gnaw festival and how fans react next year.

For more information on what happened at the event, visit billboard.com, or feel free to visit Tyler, the Creator's Twitter page at @tylerthecreator and @champagnepapi (Drake) on Instagram.

## Are YOU informed about the 2020 Census?

CHARLOTTE WAITE,  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Just like being called for jury duty, it is your civic duty to complete the census. However, the census is more time efficient and less strenuous than jury duty. Why then is there misinformation and slander against this simple event? The census dates back to the American Constitution and is vital for the government to understand the demographics of the nation. You were probably too young to remember the last census in 2010, however, you now are able to help positively impact Concordia through your participation in the upcoming census from April 1, 2020 until May 31, 2020. It's time to stop the misinformation surrounding the census. Here are some facts you should know.

First and foremost, why is there a census? The census is not an American-only event, every country conducts a census. Through the census, federal funds are awarded to states and communities. In fact, over \$675 billion is distributed each year based on census data. That equals more than \$6.7 trillion distributed over a 10-year period. This money can help with school safety, Pell grants, mental health services, student wellness programs and healthcare services. It also helps with demographics for redistricting and fair representation in the House of Representatives. It is important to complete the census so that each community is correctly recognized by the government.

Now why is there so much negativity surrounding the upcoming census? There are rumors that, through the census, undocumented or mixed-status families may be deported. This is not the case. The census is completely confidential and your responses are safe and secure; meaning that the information collected can't be used against you. Federal law protects your census responses and the answers are only used to produce statistics. By law, information cannot be cased with immigration enforcement agencies.

Your last question regarding the census may be how can I participate? You will be happy to know that it is easier than ever to participate in the census. Starting in spring 2020, the census will be able to be completed through an online form. There are also alternative ways to send in information such as mail and phone.

The census is easy, important and confidential. It's time to be excited about the opportunity to contribute to America and fulfill a part of your civic duty through completion of the census. Through this, you don't only help yourself, but the community and those around you. For more information on the census go to [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov).

## Holidays in the OC: Irvine Spectrum



PICTURED ABOVE: Christmas tree at Irvine Spectrum. Photo courtesy of Alexis Rios

ALEXIS RIOS,  
LOCAL/GLOBAL EDITOR

With record-breaking heat this past Sunday, it may not feel like the holi-

days are upon us; nevertheless, it is beginning to look a lot like Christmas down at the Irvine Spectrum Center. Holidays in Orange County are a big deal

and students do not have to go far to experience the Christmas cheer. All over Orange County, there is an abundance of places getting ready to sleigh the day, and it can often be hard to decide where to go. Located right off the 405-S, the Irvine Spectrum Center is a great choice and extremely accessible for students.

The Irvine Spectrum Center's annual ice skating rink and Christmas tree is a trademark staple of an Orange County Christmas, and both are already up in full effect. However, some students feel that it might be a tad too early to start Christmas Celebrations. "Personally, I do not like to start celebrating Christmas until after Thanksgiving. I went shopping at the Spectrum two weeks ago and saw that all the Christmas decorations were already up. I just felt like it was a little too early for it," said sophomore Mckenna Wilson.

On the other hand, the Irvine Spectrum Center recognizes that they may be jumping the gun but asks shoppers to have patience. Right in front of the 75 foot fully decorated Christmas tree is an orange sign with a turkey saying, "Too early for

a tree? We know, we know." But "the North Pole wasn't built in a day! It takes time to create the holiday magic..." It takes up to 15 days just to create the outdoor ice-skating rink that goes around the tree.

Freshman Madilyn Herrera and sophomore Rosa Franco recently took a trip to the Irvine Spectrum Center and were astounded by the decorations. "I just think it is really cool to have an outdoor ice-skating rink in Southern California, that is pretty rare," said Franco. Herrera felt the same way saying, "I loved the whole vibe and would recommend that others go check it out too. It is a great way to get in the holiday spirit, especially if you need to go gift shopping it really enhances the experience."

Want to check out the stores and holiday vibe at the Spectrum? The Office of First Year Experience offers a free shuttle service to and from the Irvine Spectrum Center for all first-year students. For the dates and times of the shuttle service check out: [cui.edu/studentlife/first-year-experience](http://cui.edu/studentlife/first-year-experience).



# Tis' the season to get chunky



PHILIP QUARTARARO,  
STAFF WRITER

The weather is getting colder, the Christmas music is on the radio and the holidays are right around the corner. Students are getting excited for Thanksgiving and Christmas, as well as everything that comes with it. This includes no school, family time and most importantly, special holiday food and drinks.

Starbucks has officially launched its holiday campaign, and it is better than ever. Besides bringing back the traditional holiday cups, they have returned and created many holiday favorites. These include -- but are not limited to -- a Peppermint Mocha, Caramel Brulee Latte, Chestnut Praline Latte, and of course, the classic Pumpkin Spice Latte.

Junior Noah McBride loves

the holiday season at Starbucks and is excited to try all the new additions. McBride said, "I have only tried the Toasted White Chocolate Mocha. I was also very surprised by how good the Peppermint Brownie Cake Pop was." The Toasted White Chocolate Mocha combines two shots of espresso, and mocha sauce brings an exquisite steamed blend of caramelized white chocolate and whipped cream.

Senior Matt Lautz also gave his opinion on the new Starbucks specials. Lautz said, "I am personally a fan of the Frappuccinos because they are like milkshakes. My favorite right now is the Java Chip Frappuccino with caramel drizzle. I want to try the Caramel Brulee Frappuccino because it looks like the sweetest drink on the menu." All the new Starbucks treats sound delicious, but local

chefs are also making their favorite holiday dishes.

Professional chef Joanne Prewett's family is from the Philippines and has a deep connection with cooking Thanksgiving meals passed down through generations. One of her personal favorite dishes is a sweet potato and apple casserole. Prewett stated, "this dish is one of my favorites because it has been part of my family's Thanksgiving feast ever since I could remember. Sweet potatoes are mixed with brown sugar, cinnamon, and a sprinkling of walnuts, then topped with marshmallows."

Prewett then gave a few ideas of dishes that can be made at any time. Making sure to keep her famous family recipe a secret, Prewett said, "Pumpkin Crunch is an easy and affordable dessert to make throughout the holiday season. Just look up holiday 'dump cake' and see how it is made of simple ingredients, takes almost no time to prepare, and has a short baking time." Prewett is excited for her family to join her this Thanksgiving and is ready to prepare a plethora of meals, including starters, main courses and desserts.

Holiday treats and recipes are all over the place making it a great time to get cooking aprons out or take a quick ride to your local Starbucks. These new foods and drinks have the student body jumping for joy. The only question left is: When will you get up and treat yourself to a nice holiday munch?

# Tree-worthy things to do this holiday season



PICTURED ABOVE: The Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade light up the harbor. Photo courtesy of californiabeaches.com.

EMILY MULLINS,  
STAFF WRITER

No need to get your tinsel in a tangle about what to do this holiday season because celebrations in Orange County are all around. If you are wondering what you will do with all your free time over Christmas break, here are some of the most tree-rifically rated things to do this year.

🎄 Nothing brings holiday cheer like Christmas lights! The Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade has as many as 100 boats that partake in the route around Newport Harbor and end at the tip of Lido Island. It begins each night at 6:30 p.m. and lasts until about 9 p.m. There are many ways to participate from watching the parade on a boat, from local restaurants, Balboa Fun Zone or Marina Park.

🎄 If you did not get enough of the boat parade, check out the houses in Huntington Harbour to see the houses, boats and docks decked out in lights. The Cruise of Lights is a narrated 45-minute tour on a boat available Dec. 17- Dec. 23. It brings the season to life with bright and colorful animations. Tickets can be purchased on [cruiseoflights.org](http://cruiseoflights.org) as well as more information about the special packages they offer.

🎄 Do not miss out on the full experience of bundling up this winter. At the Irvine Spectrum Center, they are offering Ice Skating Under the Stars. A fun experience to feel like you are in a winter wonderland from now until Jan. 6, and the best part about Southern California ice is you get to choose when to leave it. This is a great way to spend the holiday with friends or a cute date idea for cuffing season. They even offer themed skating nights most Thursdays and if you come dressed to the theme you will receive \$5 off your purchase. Make a night out of it and stop by the Christmas tree to see the light show. You won't miss

it because there is a show happening every 30 minutes. To see the skating schedule or to find the ticket pricing visit [irvinespectrumcenter.com](http://irvinespectrumcenter.com).

🎄 If you want a place where they have it all, go to the Winter Fest OC open through Jan. 5 at the Orange County Fairgrounds. They offer everything from ice tubing slides at the Snowflake Summit, evening entertainment, ice skating and light displays. There are activities for all ages and if you are looking for a day full of holiday-themed fun, tickets can be purchased online at [winterfestoc.com](http://winterfestoc.com) at a discounted rate as well as more information about the fun attractions offered.

🎄 If you want a more relaxing evening, you can visit the Irvine Barclay Theater. Entertainment is available from the traditional Nutcracker ballet from Dec. 7- Dec. 24. The Nutcracker provides a magical experience with the sugar-plum fairies and a journey to mystical lands. For specific times and dates you can find the information at [thebarclay.org](http://thebarclay.org).

🎄 At Tanaka Farms they are holding a Holiday Tour with Santa. This is great because it is just a walk away from campus and also family friendly. Happening this weekend from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., it is the perfect place to see the 30 acres of farmland, experience a snow flurry in Tanaka Land and take festive holiday photos. No reservations are needed, just arrive 20 minutes before the wagon tour you want to go on and the fun can begin.

## CU Give Back doubles down and comes out big for students

MICHAEL E. SMITH,  
STAFF WRITER

On Tues., Nov. 12 Concordia held its fourth annual CU Give Back Day in order to raise funds for various projects and departments throughout campus. However, on Wed., Nov. 13 students and alumni received word that due to the success of the 24-hour event, CU Give Back would be extended to conclude at midnight on Wednesday. This made for two full days of giving.

After 48 hours, the final count came in with 289 different donors giving a

grand total of \$47,568 to the various funds. "All 24 of the featured campaigns raised funds for their individual incentives and it was a great day of celebration for Concordia University Irvine," said Haley Marujo, '14 and Alumni Relations Coordinator.

Two big beneficiaries of the event were both of the scholarship funds. The alumni scholarship fund had the most individual donations made at 72. It raised \$4,120, including a \$1,500 challenge donation, attaining over 80% of its \$5,000 goal. The student scholarship fund came in just shy of its \$10,500 goal,

with \$10,325.

The future of Concordia is looking bright, thanks to the generosity of its students, staff, alumni, parents and friends. Look out for next year's event to see what is in store for our great school.

