

Pro-life display confronts campus community

SARINA GRANT
 ON & OFF CAMPUS EDITOR

Members of the Concordia community felt subjected to a pro-life display on March 3 outside the CU Center by The Survivors of the Abortion Holocaust, an off-campus organization, in conjunction with Every Life Matters, a pro-life campus club. The groups intended to bring awareness and spark discussion about abortion.

The display featured graphic images of aborted fetuses, informational poster boards and detailed handouts regarding abortion. This cause is at the core of the Every Life Matters group.

According to their website, "Every Life Matters is committed to a three part mission: To educate ourselves and our community about pregnancy, the value of life, and the problem of abortion; to serve the most vulnerable members of our community and their families through prayer, compassion, and care; and to lead in the pro-life movement, both in Orange County and in the world."

This event was conducted with that mission in mind. "The goal of the display was to engage students in a discussion about abortion, especially students who may not think about it on a regular basis, may not know much, or may not want to talk about it," said Katie Young, senior President of Every Life Matters. "I do think the goal was accomplished."

As a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) affiliated university, the school supports a pro-life agenda. This left some confused as to why Concordia was selected for such a display. "Yes, a lot of students at Concordia are pro-

life, but not all of them. We actually met quite a few pro-choice students," Young said. "There's a lot of apathy on Concordia's campus. They'll say that abortion is bad, that they're pro-life, but they're not really willing to discuss it and to deal with what that means."

However, the point of contention was not about the content of their message, but rather in the tactics used to convey that message.

"The pro-life stance is what our university goes by. But the way it was displayed is what some of the students certainly had issues about," said Dr. Gilbert Fugitt, Dean of Students.

Many students were unhappy with the tactics used during the display. "When I walked by, one of the protestors asked if I wanted a hand-out. I politely declined, at which point he got quite angry and shouted at me. When I walked away, trying to get out of the situation because I felt verbally threatened, he called me a baby killer and told me I was going to hell," said Mariya Artis, senior. "Instead of opening a clear and productive line of discourse about the issue, he just thought to vilify me. If one is trying to insight change, demonizing and harassing others isn't a way to make positive change."

Even some students who agreed with the position of the group were not supportive of the display. "Although I am pro-life myself, the group's actions were so aggressive that it ostracized their cause from the student body they were trying to connect to," said Nick Scutti, senior. "There is a fine line between offering information and shoving it down one's throat."

Every Life Matters had a different viewpoint on the tactics. "I think there were a lot of people who weren't prepared to be confronted, and may have interpreted the approach to be more

aggressive than it actually was," Young said. "It's important to engage those students who otherwise might walk by in order to have discussions. I'm very sorry if anyone felt attacked; that was never the intent."

Campus administrators realize the approaches used were upsetting to some students. "We want students to feel comfortable on this campus, to be able to walk to class without feeling like they're being accosted, by any group, for any reason," said Brianna Springer, Director of Multicultural Leadership & Service Learning. "It's important to keep it educational and not confrontational. We support the club's mission, but not the method."

In addition, "It's important to distinguish that [The Survivors] didn't represent our university. They were an off-campus group," said Ann Ashmon, Director of Communications. "Their tactics were not representative of our group on campus or their mission, nor were they representative of our campus ethos."

In order for an outside group to come on campus, a club or recognized department must invite them. The club must then get approval from Springer. If it is a religiously affiliated group, like The Survivors, Rev. Quinton Anderson, Campus Pastor, must also submit his approval.

Past events hosted by Every Life Matters included a chalk drawing in front of the cafeteria as part of National Pro-Life Chalk Day. That event did receive approval, on the condition that it was kept factual and educational.

In preparation for the display, the group did not get prior approval to bring the outside group on campus. "It wasn't something that was cleared with the school. It was a surprise to me

as well," Springer said. "To be fair, I don't know that the club was aware that they had to get it cleared. I think that was something they just didn't realize, and they would have cleared it if they had realized it."

The group requested to come back a second day, but that request was declined. "Part was due to the lack of approval for the first day, and part was due to the backlash from students, faculty, staff and prospective students alike," Springer said.

Although the methods used by the group were not well-received by most of the Concordia community, the importance of the issue of abortion is not diminished, as it remains a worthy issue for conversation among our campus community.

"Pro-life issues are appropriate on campus, and I appreciate the passion of the group," Springer said. Fugitt agreed, "We want free speech to occur, but there are certain protocols that clubs have to follow."

For more information on abortion, there are several sources supported by the university. Visit Lutherans for Life at <http://www.lutheransforlife.org/>, or the LCMS Life Library at www.lcms.org/page.aspx?pid=849.

Ashmon asserted, "We're very comfortable with the message and approach of Lutherans for Life, [which] doesn't match up with the group that was on campus that day."

Every Life Matters plans to hold an open forum discussion in the near future to encourage a healthy debate on the issue. The date of the event has yet to be decided.

For more information on Every Life Matters, or to participate in the upcoming discussion forum, contact Young at katherine.young@eagles.cui.edu.

Campus movie screening inspires

RYAN MCDONALD
 STAFF WRITER

At a young age, Nathan Araya, Director and Host of the independent film *Sincerely, Ethiopia*, heard the despairing stories about the struggles in Ethiopia. His parents, being from Ethiopia, shared with him their hardships growing up and the current issues their homeland is still experiencing. Araya knew that there was more to this East African country than the world expressed; he desired to discover and bring to light the shadowed beauty that Ethiopia possesses. In December of 2011, Araya, who also serves as one of Concordia's admissions counselors, made that dream a reality when he and four others embarked across the globe to get a first-hand look of what it's like to live in an underdeveloped country.

Sincerely, Ethiopia is the product of that trip. The documentary shares stories from eight different Ethiopians about their individual social development projects, started with limited resources. One man, Worku Mamo, is an elderly artist that lost both of his hands at a young age from a bomb explosion. He has been known for his widely acclaimed artwork in Ethiopia for the past 50 years, using only his disabled limbs. Another featured person is Dr. Mehila Zebenigus, Ethiopia's first female neurologist. Her impact in the community shows the groundbreaking success of women in male dominant industries. The documentary also includes stories from professions such as business, education, fashion and contemporary dance.

Araya and his crew landed in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. They consulted different organizations that focused on problems that

Ethiopia was, and still is, coping with. Some causes the documentary explores are "Change for Change," a ministry that works with former homeless children, "The Entoto Project," which cares for those living with HIV/AIDS, and an Ethiopian native that devoted his home as a school for young children. However, the film is more than just a glimpse of Ethiopia; it is a portrayal of the strength of the people and the adversity they battle while still finding happiness in their lives.

"I wanted to become a platform between America and Ethiopia. I feel that the media tainted Ethiopia by their own negative stigmas," Araya said. His goal was to not define the Ethiopians by their struggles, but by their happiness with what little they have. "We were shooting a scene in front of Addis Ababa University. I saw a group of kids playing with a rugged ball on a dirt road with no shoes, but had the biggest smile on their faces," Araya said. The crew stopped filming for a few moments and appreciated the simplicity of their joy and asked each other, *why can't we be that happy?*

This past Monday evening, students from Concordia were inspired by the sentimental images the film portrayed. *Sincerely, Ethiopia* provided a wide range of emotion, from laughter to the brink of tears. The documentary concluded with the film crew generously donating new books for the library, a large mirror for the dance studio, and a new foosball table for the house for homeless children. "My favorite parts of this film were the Adugna dancers because of their passion and how their culture influences the style of dance," said Erika Boychenko, freshman. "The other part of the film that really intrigued me were the three interviews with the

young children; they shared their story about how these different institutions changed their lives for the better."

After the film presentation, an after party was held at the Global Village. Students, faculty, and visitors enjoyed authentic Ethiopian food and had the opportunity to ask any questions about the production or about the amazing experience he had in Ethiopia. Araya's cousin, Nahom Tekleab, visited the event and talked to students about his own experiences living in Addis Ababa for 10 years. "I was impressed by the film showing the thriving side of Ethio-

pia and the growth of the economy. Ethiopia is looked at as a deplorable country—but in fact, is a great place with wonderful, kind people," Tekleab said.

Araya continues to promote his film across America and even internationally. His goal is to inspire students to pursue their ambitions and to learn about various cultures around the world. *Sincerely, Ethiopia* represents the hidden beauty in even the most poverty-stricken locations and the progress toward a better living.

To view the film's trailer, and follow the progress of this project visit sincerelyethiopia.com.



Araya is both the director of this inspiring documentary and a vibrant member of the Concordia community.

Concert choreographed by students

JAKE HUNTER HAM
STAFF WRITER

The Dance Ensemble's Spring Concert will be performed on Fri., April 11 and Sat., April 12 in the Concordia Studio Theater at 7:30 p.m. The Spring Concert is an eight-year tradition. The ensemble has been in existence since late 2006, and their first concert took place in the spring semester of 2007.

The remarkably talented dance team will bring us an impressive collection of works that consist of a variety of dance styles, emotions and moods. These works are choreographed by Concordia students themselves under the guidance of Vanessa Johnson, Dance Ensemble Coach. "A lot of time and work goes into this; it's not easy, but that makes it that much better when you succeed," Johnson said.

Jessica Abel, junior team captain, plays a vital role in this year's concert. Abel was a part of the ensembles of 2012 and 2013, but this year marks her first as dance captain. "I am a little nervous, but in the end I am super excited for the concert," Abel said. "I've been a part of two successful concerts in the past and look forward to continuing the trend."

Professor Tony Vezner, Associate Professor of Theatre, has watched the ensemble prepare for the concert. "There has been a concert every year since spring of 2007, and the ensembles always seem to get great reviews. It should be a special night," Vezner said.

Despite a forced schedule change from the

original date, the dancers are prepared for the show. Some are grateful for the extra week to prepare their performances.

The Dance Ensemble Spring Concert is a special night for Concordia University. In years past, the performances were well-attended. Mark it on the calendar, as the concert promises to provide memories and a va-

riety of exciting dances.

The concert is free of charge to students, faculty and staff of Concordia University. The price of admission for others is set at \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and children. Tickets may be bought at the door or online at www.cui.edu/thearts, under the "Theatre" tab.



Dear Abby...

Like the famous "Dear Abby" advice column, *Courier* readers can submit anonymous letters to receive advice for all aspects of life. You can submit hard-copy letters at the *Courier* office in the Delta Lounge or digitally using the Survey Monkey link found on *The Courier's* Facebook page.

Dear Abby,

I have a great sarcastic advice column in the Concordia Courier, but people have stopped writing me questions. What does this mean? Do the people of Concordia not have problems anymore? Have I been replaced? I'm very confused and a little bit hurt. What should I do?

Love,
Abby

Dear Abby,

I know how you feel. But let me assure you, the people of Concordia have not figured out all their problems. I mean really, look around. Maybe they're just pushing them aside until our dearest friend Abby can answer them again. Whatever the case, I'm sure they'll come around soon and start asking more questions for you to answer. (But really people, send some questions in. Please.)

Love,
Abby

Dear Abby,

I have a lot of problems and I don't have anyone to go to for advice. I need a source that can give me sound advice in a sassy forum. Do you know of anyone that could provide that for me?

Love,
Abby... Again

Dear ...Again,

Fear not! The Dear Abby advice column will always be here for you no matter what to provide sarcasm and answers. You can submit questions anonymously to Survey Monkey via a link on the Concordia Courier Facebook page or email them to drafts.courier@gmail.com if you're feeling bold. Or you could leave a note under the door of Delta Lounge in Upper Quads.

Love, Abby

SELF DEFENSE
FREE TRAINING FOR CUI FEMALE STUDENTS
Wednesday, April 2nd
7:00 pm-8:30 pm @ Sigma Square
Wear workout attire

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Outdoor track season races forward

TAYLOR DENNISON
STAFF WRITER
AND
JESSICA ISRAEL
SPORTS EDITOR

Finishing off the Indoor season and preparing for Outdoor, Concordia Men's and Women's Track and Field Team is training hard for every upcoming meet.

Completing their Indoor season, qualifiers competed March 6-8 in the NAIA Indoor Track and Field Championships in Geneva, Ohio, at the Spire Institute. The men placed 32nd and it was the first time the men have recorded a team score at Indoors since 2010. "Indoors was an awesome experience and I think that we, as a team, did really well," said sophomore Tyler Nichols.

In the Men's 1000-meter run, sophomore Robert Blackwell finished at 2:32.46 in eighth place, earning himself an NAIA All-American status. "It was a great experience. I had been training all year and I gave it everything I had," said Blackwell. Senior Joshua Gomez set a new personal record in the Men's 5000-meter run, finishing at 14:41.15 and placing fifth. This race placed Gomez into the NAIA All-American category. In addition to Track and Field, Gomez was also an NAIA All-American in Cross Country this season. "It is an awesome goal of mine to accomplish," Gomez said about his two-category achievement.

The Eagles competed on Sat., March 15, at Cal State Fullerton for the 2014 Ben Brown Outdoor Invitational and did very well. Although only two women and two men have qualified, the team expects more of them to follow the success in the upcoming meets.

At the Ben Brown Invitational, two of the eagles set two new school records. In the Women's Hammer Throw, senior Mikaila Davis beat the school record throwing at 39.12 meters. Also alongside Davis, junior Moises Ramos broke the school record for the Men's Hammer Throw with a distance of 53.41 meters, which also qualified him for Nationals.

During pre-season, the team sees a range from NAIA to NCAA Division I schools, such as the University of Southern California (USC) and Cal Poly Pomona. That way, the athletes are seeing a different variety of competition.

"Season is going okay so far," said Octavia Duncan, junior. "We've had a lot of changes, and

through that process I think not only have we adjusted very well, but it has also brought our team together and made us individually stronger." The men and women do very well in focusing more on what they can do better individually, rather than concentrating on distractions that are not in their control.

Megan White, junior sprinter, runs in the 400-, 200- and 100-meter, as well as the relays. "I always try to compete to the best of my ability, and leave it all out on the track," said White. "You can't re-run a race." Conference is coming up quickly and the team really has to come together in order for them to do well.

Track is different than most sports. The individual aspect requires the men and women to compete against one another, so the mental game has to be strong. There is also the team aspect as a whole that needs to be considered. "Track is scored based on the places that you

take, so if you do well individually, then it helps out your team," said Maya Dickerson, junior. "Individually, what helps you is if you get a personal record."

An area that the team excels in is their chemistry because of the different changes being made this season. "We have the throwing team, the distance team and the sprinting team, so we bond with our group in whatever event we are in," said Jaeger. "When we do get to conference, we like to cheer our entire team on, which you don't see much of because the groups are so separated at other schools."

However, the team as a whole is very small compared to other schools. "I think if we can pull through with the talent, verses the size, it will help us be one of the top teams," Duncan said. The women are hoping that instead of just having a lot of average girls that are not placing in the top, they can train the few to excel in their

events.

"I expect us to grow as a team, as a program, individually, competitively, and together," Jaeger said. As the season goes on, the women will push themselves in their event because they want to succeed. "We will have some big competitors, and I expect the team to do really well in conference," Jaeger said.

The season is just underway, but will be busy until the end of May. The Eagles have already started off the outdoor season strong and have 11 more events, including Outdoor Nationals left on the agenda. "As a team, I believe we are pretty strong, and have high hopes for taking the conference title," said Caleb McMurry, senior.

The Eagles will be back on the track tomorrow for the Outdoor Point Loma Nazarene University Invitational in San Diego, CA. For more information of the Men or Women's Team you can visit www.cuieagles.com.



Left to right: senior Aaron de Watteville, sophomore JT Royston, and freshman Brent Constantine

Women's Water Polo finishes season with first wins

MIKALA NELSON
STAFF WRITER

The Women's Water Polo Team has played 10 games in the past two weeks and is now facing the end of their season strong with eyes set on the improvements for next year. The tournament at California Baptist University (CBU) on the weekend of March 14 and 15 resulted in two wins for the Eagles against St. Francis University and Chapman University.

Even after the five games played just two days before, the women went into the CBU Tournament with a strong sense of camaraderie that worked well in their favor. "Coach Wright constantly encourages us to be competitive in the pool. During the tournament, we were just that and knew we weren't leaving without a win," said sophomore captain Sarah Johnson.

Another highlight game was just three days later at California State University Northridge on Sun., March 23. The Eagles posed a tough game for Northridge, who is ranked seventh in the nation for NCAA Division I Women's Water Polo. For the majority of the game, the women were within three goals of the Northridge Matadors. "I was really impressed with our abilities to keep the gap between goals so small during the game. The only thing that really put the Matadors ahead was the amount of players on their bench compared to ours," said Meg Dix, junior.

The Eagles face adversity competing with

a small team of just 10 women, compared to Northridge with over 25. At any moment during the game, there are seven players in the water for each team, leaving the Concordia women with only three substitute players on their bench. The low number of subs leads to a higher level of exhaustion for players and risk of injury. "I am confident that next year, with higher numbers, we can take down the large teams like Northridge," Dix said.

With now three wins under their belt, the women are ready to end the season on a positive note. Sonia Stewart is just one of the many women that transferred into Concordia for the Women's Water Polo Program. "Being our first year all together, with just one returner, we got off to a rough start. But as the season has gone on, we've grown closer and gained further understanding of our teammates. We're ready to end the season strong," Stewart said.

Looking ahead to next season, the Eagles are excited to continue bonding and improving their teamwork. "We are all very strong individual athletes, but we struggle with combining our different skills in the pool. With the improvements we have already made this season, I am beyond excited to see what next season holds for us," Johnson said. The team hopes to bring in strong recruits for next year and deepen their bench.

The women play their last game on Sat., April 5 at La Verne University at 2 p.m..

Men's Volleyball sets for championship

JASMINE BARRON
STAFF WRITER

***** Update score after Wednesday

With a record of [22-4], the Men's Volleyball Team is ready to defend their title. With a few games left in the season, the team is going out with a mission to accomplish. Last season, the team ended with an impressive record of 25-7. In only their second season at Concordia, the men are the team to beat in the NAIA after winning the National Championship in their inaugural year.

New transitions for the team have helped the team rise to success. "The coaching has changed and shows in the team, but not necessarily in a bad way. It is just different coaching styles," said Tim Moses, sophomore. "They make us play two different styles of volleyball that are both beneficial to the team." Head Coach Shawn Patchell has contributed to the winning streak by motivating and instructing his team. Assistant Coach Brad Rostratter, '13, was a member of the National Championship team and returned to help out with this year's program.

As the season is finally coming to an end,

the men are mentally and physically preparing to win another National Title. The core players from last year are back for another season and are looking to continue the success of last year. As the team progresses, the one thing that keeps the team together is their sense of brotherhood. "We are brothers. We're like one family and we are always together," said Nate Adair, sophomore. With a combined total of seven new freshmen and transfers, the team has adapted to the changes and learned the ways of the team from the upperclassmen.

Every team throughout the season changes up game plans and strategies on the court. "Every team has something they need to work on, but it's about getting in the gym and doing their reps. Getting a little bit better each day will help us out in the long run," said Roman Seghezzi, sophomore. With their hard work paying off, the men are still holding the number one ranking in the conference. They confirmed their strength and determination two weeks ago, at the St. Ambrose Fighting Bee Classic in Davenport, Iowa, with a tournament record of 7-0.

With only a few games left, the men are putting in their time in the gym to dominate their competition. Nine seniors are getting ready to end their season on a high note and are on the road to winning another National Championship Title and have a ring in sight. "The biggest motivation comes from the seniors because they continue to play hard until they end their collegiate volleyball career," said Brett Anema, junior.

This weekend, the team will be playing the NAIA National Conference Tournament in the CU Arena. Make sure to stop by today, March

Concordia Cares serves chili to needy

KALE SANTACRUZ
STAFF WRITER

On Thurs., April 3, Concordia Cares and OC Rescue Mission will meet at the Santa Ana Civic Center as part of a monthly event to serve food and beverages to individuals living in poverty.

Concordia Cares, formerly Civic Engagement, began this year as an outlet for students, faculty and staff to give back to their community. In collaboration with the Chili Van mobile food ministry, Concordia Cares will give

assistance to impoverished communities in our area. For most of us, starvation is a nearly inconceivable concept, especially when living in an upscale Southern California neighborhood. However, what remains simply a thought in our mind is a reality to others living in less fortunate areas. "The goal is to get students to serve off-campus and build relationships through service and learning in our own backyard," said Brianna Springer, Director of Multicultural Leadership & Service Learning. "It helps students gain a perspective of OC and the needs of the community. Sometimes it helps break down barriers

and challenge the assumptions of our students." Living in an environment that is generally free of a homeless population, it is easy to forget the things that take place outside of our neighborhood.

With about 100 students involved and over 500 hours of service, Concordia Cares is, without a doubt, fulfilling its vision of organizing a program that is able to support the community through service. If you're looking for a fun yet challenging way to step outside of your comfort zone, then volunteering for this event may be right for you. For more information about

Concordia Cares visit <http://www.cui.edu/studentlife/concordia-cares> and fill out a volunteer interest form.

What: Serve the homeless with OC Rescue Mission Chili Van

When: Thurs., April 3 from 3:45 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Where: Santa Ana Civic Center



ATW III: Third time's charm

SHEA FRATES
STAFF WRITER

Anticipation is building for the third Around-the-World Semester trip this August. Thirty-four Concordia students will be traveling the world over the course of 20 weeks. These students, with their professors and graduate assistants, will be traveling to Brazil, Paraguay, South Africa, Morocco, Estonia, Nepal, India, Cambodia, China and South Korea.

"My backpack is already packed," said Adam Lee, English professor and co-founder of the Around-the-World program. "I can leave tomorrow."

The first Around-the-World trip began in 2010 and has grown into a large "Rounder Nation."

"I am a really small part of this huge, big, beautiful legacy that God has for Concordia through the Around-the-World program," said Abigail Lozano, freshman and member of the ATW III team. "I am really excited; I am looking forward to seeing what God does."

Lee started the program several years ago when a group of students wanted to accompany

him on his travels.

"The student mission groups from abbey-west came to me one year and said, 'You're always doing these cool trips. Can we come with you?'" Lee said. "I responded by saying, 'If you are willing to contact the churches, figure out transportation, get the visas, the immunizations, the shots and the hotels, then absolutely.'"

Due to the success of Lee's outreach, Concordia asked Lee to start a similar program so the school can integrate it into its curriculum. "Administration came to me and asked if I could do something like this and make it academic during the school year," Lee said. "And that's how the program got started."

Lozano has been looking forward to the trip for quite some time. "I first heard about Around-the-World when I was 13," Lozano said. "My family is old family friends with Professor Lee and we would get around the computer and look through and see all their pictures and I thought, 'That's what I want to do.'"

David Garcia, senior, went on the first Around-the-World trip and looks back on where the program was and where its going. "Knowing that there are people coming to Con-

cordia [to go on the ATW trip] because they want to follow Him and take the risk to step out there and change the world in His name is one of the most amazing things about Concordia," Garcia said. "You see all these students going now and I look back and I think, 'Wow, we've paved the way for these people to go.'"

In order to participate in the Around-the-World Semester, students must apply in the fall one year before the trip and be accepted into the highly competitive program. "We select students based on their strengths," Lee said. "But we believe that God is working through us to select them because of their weaknesses and wants to find certain weaknesses that he can work through."

"Every trip is not just about the students and what God wants to do through them and what He wants us to teach them," Lee said. "He has something that he wants to teach us each time we do it."

Visit cui.edu/atw for more information on the Around-the-World Semester and links to the ATW blog, which will be updated when the trip begins.



Members of the "Rounder Nation" from ATW I and II pose with the newest Roundlings of ATW III at the ATW reunion.

Academic Showcase Schedule of Events

**Wed., April 2
Finalists'
Presentation**

**10:30 a.m. to noon
DeNault Auditorium**

**Fri., April 4
Announcement
of Winners
Immediately
following chapel**

**Be there to
support your high
achieving peers**

OC Great Park funding questions

BRIAN TRAINOR
STAFF WRITER

The OC Great Park is already Orange County's single most expensive and largest construction project ever. However, this impressive public park has recently run into financial delays for completion. The Great Park, with its 1,300 acre master plan, (twice the size of New York's Central Park), is the focal point of the redevelopment of the 4,700 acre former El Toro Marine Base, according to the OC Great Park's website. There are currently 27.5 completed acres, including iconic helium balloon that rises 400 ft. in the air, providing an aerial view of park development, ocean, and the city. A \$70 million development plan to expand the park to 200 acres is currently underway. The plan will build out a core section of the park for the most immediate and wide-ranging public benefit, including a sports park, agricultural area and an art and culture exhibition space.

Unfortunately, the optimistic plan and the constraints of reality have come in to some conflict. Sherwin Kim, an on-site manager for the park, has an inside perspective of how things are going. Kim did not seem very optimistic about the outcome; the park is in desperate need of funding. The entire 1,300-acre park, the vast

majority of which has yet to be built, was in a redevelopment zone, and it had long been assumed that its construction would be financed by increased property tax revenue from an adjacent 5,000-home development. When that redevelopment project went down, so did the funding, thus slowing the progress of the park even until this day. "The future of the park is really up in the air. Even being on-site every day we are searching for things to get done within the budget," said Kim.

Still seeking the budget they feel they were promised and signed a contract for, the park has been in a stand-still since late 2012, except for the addition of the newly opened sporting facility.

There are positives to the park, even though the future is unknown. Recently, after help with funding, the city of Irvine will be moving forward with a modification to the Great Park Master Plan. If you like fresh fruit, you're in luck! The OC Great Park is home to one of the best Farmers markets every Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., rain or shine. The newest addition to the park, the sports facility, is a 19.5 acre multi-purpose sports lawn and recreation field that will feature space for a variety of sports activities, including soccer, football, T-ball and lacrosse. "Being able to provide fields for the youngsters to be active and make new friendships through sports was a

main goal for us," said Orlando Caruso, architect of the Great Park.

"Honestly, I don't even know where or what that is," said Jordan Kaplowitz, '10. "I have been to the orange balloon twice, once during the day and once at night; it makes for a really awesome view. Bring a jacket and your kid personality because there is a merry-go-round there as well," said Haley Johnson, senior.

For more information and park hours, visit www.ocgp.org.



Great Park exhibit displays anime culture

KALEIGH WILDAUER
STAFF WRITER

The Orange County Great Park opened a new art exhibition, "Hero," on Jan. 5. The exhibit is scheduled to remain at the park until June 13. The exhibition celebrates the unique world of Japanese anime and manga. Admission is free for all ages. The exhibition is open Thursdays and Fridays from noon to 4 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The "Hero" exhibit showcases both Japanese anime and manga by displaying many different forms of expression, some of which include acrylics, sculpt modeling, digital arts and 3D design.

Several noteworthy artists showcased at the exhibit include major film and video game artists such as Mai Van, Dave Wilkins, Eddie Nunez, Emmy Award-winning artist Thomas N. Perkins IV and Rafael Grasseti.

Perkins has been an artist in the animation industry for television and film since 1997. Perkins believes in "creating odd folks for strange worlds." Some of Perkins' work can be credited to his job as a freelance artist. Perkins has created animation for shows like "Without a Trace" and "Dexter."

"I'm usually not interested in things like manga or Japanese anime, but it seems like it would be an interesting exhibit to go to, due to all the interesting artists and the different types of cartoons," said Sean Matilla, junior. "I hope to check it out sometime before it ends."

Japanese anime is typically hand drawn or produced by computer animation. It is often characterized by colorful graphics and vibrant colors, which allows a lot of excit-

ing action to be shown. It has been around since the 19th century and is currently on the rise of popularity for many teens and young adults here in America, as well as other places around the world. Some popular anime-style shows in America are "Sailor Moon," "Full-metal Alchemist" and "Dragonball."

There are also different types of Japanese anime that appeal to certain demographics. Shojo is a type of anime that is for young girls, whereas Seinen is made for teenage or adult men. Interestingly enough, many themes are also represented in Japanese anime. One of them that is widely used is the Sentai theme. This theme follows a storyline of fighting.

Manga, the other form of art to be offered at the Great Park, is a type of comic created in Japan. The word itself means "comic" or "cartooning" in Japanese. One of the most famous examples of manga is the hit show and comic "Naruto." Many broad genres are expressed in these whimsical drawings, including romance, comedy and historical drama.

In addition to the "Hero" exhibition, the Orange County Great Park will also be hosting a gathering for the local community to engage with local artists called the "Living Room." The event will take place on April 6 from 1- 2 p.m. Some of the artists whose works will be shown at the "Hero" exhibition will make personal appearances at the "Living Room." Two of these artists include local illustrator and designer Patrick Ballesteros and Perkins.

For more information regarding the "Hero" exhibition, or to find out about more art exhibitions being shown at the Orange County Great Park, visit www.ocgp.org.

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Dobbin impresses at senior recital

HOLLY GAMESTER
STAFF WRITER

Elizabeth Dobbin performed her senior recital at the Good Shepherd Chapel on Fri., March 21. Beautiful voices and eloquent instruments could be heard drifting through the night. Dobbin used a mix of classical pieces during her performance. These musical pieces included Mozart, Britten and Schumann, along with a number of other composers.

With such an important and difficult performance, choosing exactly what to play and when to include vocals is a delicate and rigorous process. This is a process where each composition should be taken into serious consideration before setting the performance into stone. Along with picking some of her favorite pieces, Dobbin said that her voice teacher, Dr. Robyn Frey-Monell, also had a hand in constructing her performance. "Dr. Robyn Frey-Monell instructed me on them, helped me pick many of them and helped me assemble the pieces into a coherent order for the recital," Dobbin said. Some of her favorite pieces were the Britten arrangements, the "Queen of the Night" aria and "Agitata da due venti."

Dobbin was not the only one on stage for the performance. "Esther Parkhurst joined me for one piece on flute and Patricia Riffel accompanied the whole performance," Dobbin said. These additions helped cement the recital and left Dobbin very satisfied with the outcome. "I was definitely happy with the performance," Dobbin said. "I think it was well-received and I was told that there were a few tears in the audience."

This was a process for Dobbin that did not come easily. From the rounds of picking the specific music to play to the countless hours of practice and perfecting her skill, this recital could not have come soon enough. "I have been preparing for this recital for about a year by learning new pieces, practicing them on my own, rehearsing them with Pat—my fabulous accompanist—and working on them with Dr.

Frey-Monell," Dobbin said. All of the practice hours and hard work that she put in were clearly noted as her recital wound on. It was clearly something from a practiced and skilled musician.

Jordan Long, senior, was overcome by the music he heard. "I was on a run around the school and as I passed by the chapel I heard this beautiful music," Long said. Many students do not realize that there are these recitals and showcases for senior students. Many wish that they had been informed so that they could have the chance to hear and/or see these performances in order to support their fellow students. "I had no idea that that was even happening," said Long. "I honestly probably would have gone, maybe brought some friends too."

It has been a long road to get Dobbin to where she is today. She has always been a singer and then found a connection with music that is unparalleled to anything found on earth. God has a huge impact on Dobbin and her music. "I

think it is something God placed in my heart. Music is one of the ways I can praise Him and give back a little of the blessings He has given me," Dobbin said. God is a guiding force behind Dobbin's passion for music and her time-consuming practice. "Performing seems to bring me closer to Him," said Dobbin, "I like to think that I perform first for my Savior and second to share my gift of music with others."

Although she was happy with the overall outcome, "It's taking a while for relief to set in since the performance," Dobbin said.

Dobbin's is not the only senior recital taking place this month. Tonight at 7 p.m. in Good Shepherd Chapel, Matthia Duryea will present her hard work, sharing her own beautiful voice. Tomorrow, Karissa Lystrup will give a junior organ recital at 7 p.m. in the CU Center. On Sun., March 30, Gretchen Sheetz will showcase her work on the harp. These recitals offer a unique opportunity to support fellow students and enjoy fantastic, free, music.



Jews for Jesus visit

KRISTINA DEUSCH
STAFF WRITER

On Tues., Mar. 18, David Garrett, a representative from the Jews for Jesus organization, spoke in chapel. He shared information on the missionary work that his organization is doing throughout the world. Later that day, he led an abbreviated Passover Seder meal.

Rev. Quinton Anderson, Campus Pastor, invited Garrett to Concordia's campus. The main purpose of Garrett's visit was "to share insight about how we see Jesus Christ in the Passover meal and celebration," Anderson said.

Eight people took part in the Passover Seder meal, a ritual feast that is observed with specific foods, prayers and other activities. Seder is a Hebrew word meaning "set order," and this annual feast marks the beginning of the Jewish holiday, Passover. "These traditions all work together to recall the sorrows of God's people [from] when held in slavery in Egypt," Anderson said. "God's sending of the 10 plagues to bring about the deliverance [of the Jewish people], and especially His protection from the final plague on the Passover, which culminated in Pharaoh letting God's people go free."

The Jews for Jesus organization aims to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to Jewish people by helping them see how Jesus fulfills what they believe from the Old Testament scriptures. Their mission statement is to "make the messiahship of Jesus an unavoidable issue to our Jewish people worldwide," according to the Jews for Jesus website.

"In celebrating the Passover meal and recalling the story of God's initiation of the first Passover, one's eyes are opened to how each detail points to Christ as the fulfillment of that special night," Anderson said. "With that comes a fuller appreciation for God's wisdom, the depth of His grace and mercy, and the redemptive work of salvation accomplished for us on the cross by Jesus." Understanding the connection between the Jewish heritage from which Christ came helps Christians today better understand the meaning behind His life and actions.

Irvine Museum brings focus to SoCal artists

JOSHUA SUH
STAFF WRITER

Joan Irvine Smith, Chair of The Irvine Museum, and Jean Stern, Director of The Irvine Museum, share Southern California culture through different artistic landscapes. The museum offers a variety of timeless artwork that showcase the evolution of life from cities like Irvine and Los Angeles.

The Irvine Museum sets its collection apart from other museums by emphasizing the history of Southern California and the use of watercolor as the preferred medium for their paintings. "The term 'California Scene Painting' is used to define works that include people or evidence of humanity," Smith said. "A lot of the art pieces in the museum have manmade objects and structures like barns or coastline piers, which are key elements that define an artist's work as a California Scene Painting." Most of the paintings displayed are from the Impressionist Period in California, which was from 1890-1930. Impressionist art focuses primarily on accurate depictions of light or accentuates the different times of the day.

The Irvine Museum opened in 1992 with only a few paintings from Smith's art collection, but has continued to grow throughout the years. The museum currently holds vast numbers of pieces from California artists such as Phil Dike, Millard Sheets, Emil Kosa Jr., Milford Xornes and Rex Brandt.

The museum prides itself with its collection of pieces from regionalist artist Dike, who was known for capturing the essence of Los Angeles during his time. Dike is most commonly known for his work, "Plaza on Sunday," which depicts California's fast pace of life during the 1940s. The Irvine Museum also proudly displays Dike's more appreciated watercolor piece, "California Holiday." This piece showcases a different side of California with Dike's illustration of the local beach bluffs.

One of the most historical landscapes in the

museum is Sheets' artistic work, "Abandoned," which portrays the experiences of working people in urban settings. Most of Sheets' work in the museum was aimed with a central message, for viewers to recognize social realisms such as the Great Depression during the Impressionist era.

"The good thing about museums today is that they are very eclectic," said Rachel Hayes, Professor of Art. "Museums are not just a col-

lection of paintings, but a collection of various perceptions of the world."

Now museum director, Stern graduated from San Diego State University with a degree in Art History and has been giving tours of the museum for 22 years. "Honestly, I love working here," Stern said. "I love being surrounded by art and talking to people about different pieces."

Weston Paulson, junior art major, was ex-

cited to hear that there was an art museum in Irvine. "The art community is definitely pretty small here in Orange County compared to other cities like Los Angeles or New York," Paulson said. "But I think it is great how the Irvine Museum offers free admission to everybody."

The Irvine Museum is located on Von Karman Avenue. For more information visit www.irvinemuseum.org.



Teen fiction, *Divergent*, succeeds in box office

KAYLA LARDNER
STAFF WRITER

Divergent wowed at theaters last weekend and rightfully claimed the number one spot at the box office. In its first weekend, the movie grossed nearly \$60 million, and even with its two-and-a-half hour run time, it was worth every penny.

Divergent is set in a dystopian Chicago where all members of society are subjected to testing and then told to join one of five groups or factions: Erudite, the overly-intelligent ones, Candor, the truthful to a fault, Amity, the peaceful farmers, Dauntless, the insanely brave and bravely insane, and Abnegation, who forgo all thoughts of the self in order to highlight others.

Beatrice, the spunky heroine and unhappy Abnegation member, feels lost in her supposedly perfect world of helping others. As she explains in the film, when it comes to the test that will decide what faction she should choose, she is scared that the test will tell her she is perfect for Abnegation, but even more scared that it won't.

She feels lost and unsure, and Shailene Woodley, star of "The Secret Life of the American Teenager" and the Oscar-nominated film *The Descendants*, plays her emotions as raw and relatable. You can see the confusion and the sadness in her eyes as she walks through her daily life. It all combines to make for a truly believable character. But Beatrice's story takes a turn toward the dangerous as she finds that the one test that was going to decide her future for her didn't work on her. Now not only is she forced to choose between the factions with no guide but her own heart, but her classification as *Divergent* just might cost her her life. *Divergents* naturally don't conform in a world that relies on conformity. *Divergents* threaten the system, and so the system threatens *Divergents*.

Despite all of this, you can see her joy and her pure adrenaline when she makes the decision to join Dauntless. As Tris, the new name she goes by soon after shedding her old life, she runs with an excitement usually reserved for only the Dauntless-born.

That is when the adrenaline rush for the audience begins as well. With every step Tris takes and with every obstacle she overcomes, our hearts surge and pound with hers. We cheer her on as she narrowly makes it onto the train that will take her from her old self to her new existence in an entirely opposite faction. We cringe as she jumps from that train onto the cold, hard gravel of reality as the weight of her choice hits

her. Our blood pressure rises as she is forced to jump into the dark, foreboding, bottomless pit that is the entrance to her new life. Yet, despite all of these intensely frightening experiences, Tris lands in Dauntless headquarters, not just as the "first jumper," but as a changed person.

This movie definitely lived up to expectations. It kept to the book's story line as much as it could, which is necessary to keeping the

essence of the book alive. It featured great actors and actresses. But more than any of that, it forced the audience to ask themselves about factions in their own lives, and whether or not they feel trapped by the choices they have to make in order to survive. Walking out of that crowded movie theater, I had more questions than concerns, but most of all, I left eager to see what the sequel has in store for us.



"Wind Orchestra blew me away"

KAYLA FANSLER
STAFF WRITER

The Wind Orchestra performed their annual Spring Concert last Sunday at the CU Center. Audience member Emily Sanchez, freshman, simply stated: "The Wind Orchestra blew me away."

The Wind Orchestra has gained a strong reputation with the help of Jeff Held, the music director of Wind Orchestra and Chair of the Arts Division, developing it into a formidable college ensemble noted for its all-around excellence. The orchestra itself is made up of instruments such as flutes, trumpets, trombones, cellos and many others that come together to perform some of the most renowned symphonies.

One of the highlighted performances of the night was "Trauermusik" or the "Music for Mourning" composed by Richard Wagner. The "Trauermusik" had never been showcased by the orchestra before, adding another tantalizing element to the evening's performances. The somber tune lit the air as one of the more serious pieces. "This was my favorite performance of the night," Sanchez said, "because of the harmonies, even if they were a little haunting. They worked well together."

Another underlined piece was "Symphony No. 3" by Alfred Reed. This performance consisted of a series of pieces that ranged from "fast and agitated" to "fast and decisive." The piece opened with Gretchen Sheetz, senior harpist, playing the theme that influenced the piece before proceeding to the other two movements. "They [the movements] are both very intense and require a great amount of counting and concentration from each musician," said Erin Murphy, freshman cellist in the Wind Orchestra.

"Symphony No. 3" was the longest performance and a recurring choice for the orchestra, as it has been performed multiple times for previous spring concerts. The three movements contrasted drastically with the more subdued melody of "Trauermusik," and instead were more intense and upbeat. "My favorite piece was 'Symphony No. 3' because it was riveting and the percussion section brought an aggressive element that the other pieces were lacking," said Nicole Meyerholz, freshman.

The third movement in the symphony has

its own flair because it happens to be a fugue. A fugue is a movement where each player has their own part, not only adding to the pressure for the performers but also highlighting the talent of each member. "If you listen carefully you can hear the melody being passed from one section to the next," Murphy said.

The concert itself seemed to have been a hit, thanks to the time and effort that the musicians put in to prepare for the event. They received the pieces back in February and practiced regularly to go over the works as a group. "The ex-

pectation is that each individual musician takes their part home and looks at it every day on their own," Murphy said. A lot of dedication and hard work is needed for each individual to know their part and everyone else's. Constant repetition is required to perfect the pieces.

Admission into the ensemble is granted at the beginning of each semester, and rehearsals take place Tues. and Thurs. from 3:30 to 5:15. For more music, check out the Sinfonietta Spring Concert on April 27 and visit www.cui.edu/thearts.



What on earth is a gastropub?

SARINA GRANT
ON & OFF CAMPUS EDITOR

As my fourth year comes to a close, I can guarantee you that I have been to almost every restaurant around the Concordia campus. A girl can only have pasta, chicken and squash at the caf so many nights in a row. Sick of both the caf and my usual repertoire of restaurants, I set out to find a refreshing change of pace. And that's exactly what I got from Haven Gastropub in Old Towne Orange.

So just what is a gastropub? The craze started in London when existing pubs added a gourmet chef, offering patrons both beverages and high quality menu items.

True to the traditional gastropub, (for those of you over 21), Haven has a huge selection of wine, beer and cocktails. Each menu item has a recommended pairing, but all servers are well trained and can give additional suggestions. For those of you who aren't quite of age, their soda products are sweetened with Agave Nectar instead of the traditional syrup. Although slightly less fizzy than traditional coke, it was still really good.

I was pleasantly surprised with the cost. The menu had a pretty wide price range. The burgers, flatbreads and salads were more reasonably priced. For those looking to splurge, the meat and seafood choices were a little more expensive, but still doable. As an added bonus, the eatery buys local or organic produce, and uses only sustainable seafood and humanely raised meat and poultry.

The menu doesn't really feature the traditional appetizer selection, with large plates for multiple people to share. Instead they have a wide variety of "snacks," with everything ranging from truffle fries to several different types of chips. The portions are big enough for one, maybe two, people to share. I ordered the hand-twisted pretzel, which was a soft, salted pretzel that came with both a beer mustard and a bacon-fontina cheese dipping sauce. It was pretty good, but I'd recommend the house-made potato chips. I stole a few from my friend, and was blown away.

For entrees, there's a pretty wide selection. You can get one of eight super unique salads, a variety of different flatbread sandwiches and burgers, or any number of seafood and meat dishes. If you and your party of 8 to 14 people are feeling particularly adventurous, with a week's notice, you can even order a whole roasted suckling pig.

One of their most popular menu items is The Haven Burger, which takes a cheeseburger and dresses it up with pickled red onions, roasted red bell peppers, wild arugula and fancy cheese. It sounds a little different, but at \$14, why not try it out?

To indulge your sweet tooth, Haven has you covered with desserts ranging from house-made donuts to clafoutis (a vanilla custard with

blood orange and blackberry.)

If you are vegan, have allergies, or have other dietary specifications, the Haven Gastropub can absolutely accommodate you. Most of their options can easily be made without cheese or bread, and vegan menu items are easily identified.

To get there, I took the 405 N to CA-55 N to CA-22 W. Get off at Glassell. The restaurant is about one and a half miles off the freeway. (I feel like someone in *The Californians* skit from SNL.) It was a quick 20 minutes from school, and there's a lot of free street parking. While visiting Old Towne Orange, be sure to take a peek at one of the dozens of antique shops.

Do you have a restaurant that blew you away? Let us know on facebook! www.facebook.com/ConcordiaIrvineCourier.



Intramural soccer kicks off to a stellar start

JAMES ALLEY
STAFF WRITER

On Fri., March 14, the coed intramural soccer season kicked off on Concordia's soccer field. For five weeks, teams will meet each Friday night to decide who will take home the honor of the number one spot.

The atmosphere of the games, which take place between 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., is often tense as event attendees cheer on their favorite team. With two weeks of competition done, teams such as Slithry Lil Sneaky Snakes and the Average Joes are starting to pull ahead in the standings.

Tonight's matches are sure to thrill even the most difficult to please fans, as the Turtlenecks face off against Straight Red, and the Spartans

“I live for soccer so this really was a no-brainer for me”

face Salgae. With over 12 teams, chances are strong that everyone knows at least one person involved in intramural soccer.

Matches feature seven players, including a keeper, on a half-sized pitch with full-sized goals. This had led to an exciting style of play as quick turnovers and long-distance goals have become commonplace. It is common to see scores that jump into the double digits as star players drive their teams to high scoring victory.

Intramural soccer has been a great way for students to interact with large groups of their peers while learning about the complex nature of playing soccer. Senior Haley Holmes plays on Straight Red. “Intramural soccer has been so awesome; I love getting to spend time with friends while exercising and helping my team win,” Holmes said. Intramural soccer was the brainchild of senior Dakota Voas, who organized and made the tournament possible. “I live for soccer so this really was a no-brainer for me,” Voas said. “I wanted to give my peers an opportunity to take part in something that I love to do while having fun and getting to be competitive.”

Sophomore Aaron Mietzner plays on an intramural soccer team and has enjoyed his Friday night games. “I really like playing coed soccer; it is just such a fun environment where everyone is having a good time and enjoying the game,” Mietzner said. Coed sports offer a unique environment that allows everyone to have fun while enjoying a competitive sport.

Senior Haley Johnson plays for the Average Joes. “It's been very enjoyable and low key, just competitive enough to make it fun,” Johnson said. That is what makes soccer such a great sport for everyone of all skill levels to play. It is engaging and fun, no matter what skill level the player has.

Intramural soccer has had a big impact on Concordia students in just two short weeks. If you would like to know more about intramural sports, come by on a Friday evening to the soccer field and see what it's all about. Games begin at 5:30 p.m. and end around 8 p.m. Come out to the soccer field to cheer for your friends and fellow Eagles.

Jock Talk with Emily Craig

Senior catcher of the defending NAIA National Champion softball team

Hearing the cheering of “Good eye, good eye, good eye, good eye... Good eye, good eye, good eye, good eye” and a scene of us dancing around like pirates is considered to be just a typical day on the field. If there is one fact you should know about Concordia Softball, it is that we are a unique bunch of girls: a unique bunch of girls striving to win a national championship.

The reason why we are a unique group is because of the different personalities each girl brings to the team. There are some girls that like to keep a low profile; while on the opposite end of the spectrum, there are those who will do just about any crazy antic if asked. There may be a variety of personalities on the team, but we have fun and love being together. If you get all of us together in a room, I will guarantee you either dancing or hair braiding/bow making will be happening. Many would describe our bond as a family rather than just a team. We have cultivated a love for one another and our sport that makes it enjoyable to come to practice everyday. I know that I am blessed to have every one of these 23 girls in my life.

Our family does not consist of solely the players; our coaching staff are the heads of this household. The six women, who devote their time and energy, are examples of strong, joyful, and hard working individuals, and that as a team, we respect and admire. These women are also responsible for our fun and loving environment. Whether they are acting out scenes from SNL or planning one of our super awesome team events, all six are probably some of the funniest people I will meet. Even though

sometimes our coaches may get frustrated with us, we know that each coach wants the best for every member of the Concordia Softball family. I am thankful to have a coaching staff that cares about me as an athlete and a person.

The journey has just begun for us. I am excited to see where this journey takes us and what the outcome will be. However, whatever the outcome may be, I know that all 23 girls,

6 coaches and 3 athletic trainers will be working hard and together toward our common goal: to win the 2014 NAIA National Championship. We have a long road ahead of us, before we make it to Columbus, GA, but I know that I want to go with no other family than Concordia Softball. So please, come out and support us at our games! We would love to see you all out there! Go Eagles!



The Eagles are back in action tomorrow at Hope International University in Fullerton and return home to host Vanguard University in a double header on Tues., April 1 starting at 2 p.m.