

Inside...

Campus	"Real Dormwives"	pg. 4
Sports	"Ice, Ice, Baby"	pg. 3
Arts	Spotlight on Christina Vogt	pg. 6
Off Campus	Solar Decathlon	pg. 5
Everything Eagles	Battalion & Beloved	pg. 8

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Radio show resonates with meaning

Professors' passionate podcast penetrates pliable public's perceptions

DAVID MAITHYA
STAFF WRITER

Virtue in the Wasteland is a podcast series highlighting interdisciplinary conversations by Dr. Daniel van Voorhis, Department Chair of History and Political Thought, and Dr. Jeffrey Mallinson, Associ-

ate Professor of Theology and Director of the League of Faithful Masks. According to Virtue in the Wasteland's website, Mallinson and van Voorhis "discuss ways to cultivate civic courage in our age of narcissism and nihilism." Featured on iTunes, the podcast was the "number one podcast on philosophy for a while, with thousands of hits and downloads a month," according to Mallinson.

The name of the podcast is derived from the T.S. Eliot poem, "The Wasteland."

The title explains the mission of the podcast. Each episode explores remnants of civility in our increasingly mindless culture.

Not only is the podcast listened to in every state in the country, but there are about 45 other countries that tune in. The podcast is conducted under the

auspices of the nonprofit organization League of Faithful Masks, which helps fund the equipment and bandwidth. "We love to have other faculty members get involved, and students are encouraged to listen to our podcasts and get to know their professors in a different way," Mallinson said.

The podcasts are recorded in various locations, sometimes even in one of the professor's offices. Despite not being a university-sanctioned production, it "aims to inform the community out there about important conversations happening around here," Mallinson said. Van Voorhis and Mallinson rely on word-of-mouth and other media, such as Facebook, to let people know about it.

Along with philosophical and political issues, Virtue in the Wasteland discusses pop culture. "We will be discussing 'Breaking Bad' and its moral and cultural implications," said van Voorhis. Deciding which topics are aired sometimes depends on what is going on in the news. "Everything feeds off the same ideas of virtue, decency and complexity," van Voorhis said. They plan on inviting guest speakers "with interesting stories that touch on the human experience."

A recent episode of Virtue in the Wasteland featured a live audience of Concordia students

who were encouraged to participate and share their informed opinions in a philosophical "Would You Rather?" About a dozen students attended the recording session held in the Global Village lounge. Allee Alkema, senior, contributed her political opinion to the live recording. "I think it's really interesting any time you get to interact with professors outside of a classroom setting. It was really cool of them to invite us to participate in that experience with them," Alkema said.

The podcast is produced weekly with new episodes appearing every Sunday. "I like listening to Virtue in the Wasteland because I think they have a fun combination of witty banter and deeper philosophical questions," Alkema said. Virtue in the Wasteland promotes the same ideals of wise citizenship and cultured academic excellence that the university and CUI Bono espouse.

Mallinson and van Voorhis began recording the podcast this past summer, and responses have been almost exclusively positive. Van Voorhis said that the aim of the program is not to be dogmatic, but rather to find possible ways to approach issues.

To access the podcasts, go to www.virtueinthewasteland.com/show.html or search "Virtue in the Wasteland" on iTunes.

Honors students to present on E-Books in New Orleans

LIANNA JORDAN
STAFF WRITER

This November, representatives from the Honors Program will be traveling to New Orleans to participate in the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Conference.

The current group of students in the Honors Program will give a presentation of their findings from an experiment to catalog students' opinions of e-books titled, "Academic Rigor in the Freshman Seminar: But Ouch! Student Antipathy to E-Books." This presentation will report how last year's freshmen in the Honors Program felt about electronic reading versus paper books.

Dr. Susan Bachman, Director of the Honors Program, will travel with sophomores April Hall, Katie Jarnutowski, Gianna Kozel, Kierney Loucas, Cassidie Read, Danika Schmid, Courtney Thornton; and junior Allistair Galindo to the conference to present the results.

Last year, Bachman traveled to Boston to attend the annual conference in order to find out more about the NCHC, and was pleasantly surprised with her findings. She thought of an idea for a presentation, and began to work with the students in her Honors Freshman Seminar breakout class during the fall 2012 semester.

That semester, the freshmen in the Honors Freshman Seminar breakout class were required to choose a non-fiction e-book from Concordia Library's online catalog of e-books, which, according to Carolina Barton, Director of Library Services, contains about 150,000 books. After

reading the book electronically, the students wrote a critical book review of it and an essay explaining how they felt about the experience of reading an e-book. At the end of the study, "everybody, to a person, hated some aspect of reading electronically," Bachman said.

Rikelle Mendonsa, sophomore, who was in the Honors Freshman Seminar breakout class last fall, shared her feelings about reading e-books. "Although electronic books would not be my ideal choice for reading a book for pleasure, they can be a great resource for students," Mendonsa said.

Gianna Kozel, writer for the Honors Program newsletter, is excited for the opportunity to travel to New Orleans to give the presentation. She is also excited to participate in the various breakout sessions, including those on the topic of newsletter writing. "We're going to get a lot of new ideas and be able to get feedback from other schools about how to improve our Honors Program," Kozel said.

Bachman feels this conference will not only improve the Honors Program, but will also provide the opportunity for Concordia to represent itself well at a conference with nearly 1,000 universities. "We're not just little Concordia. They're going to see how strong we are," Bachman said.

Current freshmen in the Honors Program will also participate in the ongoing experiment in their Freshman Seminar breakout class by reading an e-book, writing a critical book review, and writing their opinion of electronic reading.

New club applications energize campus

MARGARET LANGDON
COPY EDITOR

Interest in clubs is on the rise, and with it, new opportunities for student leaders. LEAD Student Activities has recently received several promising new club applications. Among them, the Behavioral Science Club, Games Cubed, and Eagles' Eggs. "Clubs are the heart of the campus," said Brianna Springer, LEAD Program Coordinator. "Concordia is putting a lot more effort into clubs this year because that's where the 'energy' is. We make an impact in students' lives by going where the energy is."

The Behavioral Science Club hopes to fill the need for an on-campus social/academic society for those interested in psychology, behavioral science, and sociology. Already, excitement is building for the fledgling group; last year, current club leaders planned a "Psychosocial," where graduating seniors held a discussion for students interested in the field. After that event's success, Brendon Blake, junior President of the Behavioral Science Club, and Lauren Stevens, junior Vice President of the Behavioral Science club, realized the potential for the club. Stevens has big dreams for the club. "I'm excited to see our membership grow," Stevens said. "I dream of being able to raise enough money that we could have impressive people come speak—maybe even have a TEDtalk on campus? We're also speculating about a behavioral science May term trip."

Eagles' Eggs, a service-oriented group, encourages involvement in the pro-life community and hopes to engage and equip students in the ongoing abortion debate. "I want to focus on inviting people to different activities, expos-

ing them to what it's like being involved and bringing various speakers on campus to educate people about what's going on," said Katie Young, junior President of Eagles' Eggs. Having worked as a volunteer sidewalk counselor before, Young hopes to bring similar service opportunities to Concordia's students. Currently, the group, in conjunction with Students for Life, is supporting an Orange County "40 Days for Life" campaign. This campaign organizes volunteers to pray in front of a local abortion clinic.

Games Cubed is a social gaming group whose unofficial meetings have slowly grown into a dedicated following. The name references the three types of games the group focuses on: card games, board games, and video games. "Games Cubed is a diverse and flexible gaming environment where people from many different backgrounds can socialize, make new friends and learn new games that they may not have had access to anywhere else," said Jason O'Brien, sophomore President of Games Cubed. The group takes some cues from other college gaming clubs, like UCI's Dungeons and Dragons team, but O'Brien hopes to bring a greater diversity of experiences to Games Cubed. "At each meeting, we'll have at least one video game, one card game and one board game going on," O'Brien said. "I envision people coming and bringing all their favorite games—I'm looking forward to our members teaching us all some new and interesting things."

To get involved, contact club presidents via email.

Blake (brendon.blake@eagles.cui.edu)
Young (katie.young@eagles.cui.edu)
O'Brien (jason.obrien@eagles.cui.edu)

The Bear Necessities with Bear and Zocks: Syria? Seriously?

A blood-red line

AMANDA OZAKI
POLITICAL COLUMNIST

“We have been very clear to the Assad regime, but also to other players on the ground, that a red line for us is we start seeing a whole bunch of chemical weapons moving around or being utilized. That would change my calculus. That would change my equation.”

When President Barack Obama set a “red line” for the United States in 2012, people listening might have felt a little déjà vu. Former president Bill Clinton said something similar about the genocide in Rwanda, which killed over 800,000 people. “We must have global vigilance. And never again must we be shy in the face of the evidence,” Clinton said. And yet, the United States refused to intervene. Thankfully, it seems as if diplomacy in Syria has a fighting chance. The UN, Russia, Syria, and the United States are set to hold talks about the safe disarmament of Assad’s chemical weapons. However, if diplomacy falls apart (which it often does in cases of political turmoil), President Obama must be ready to engage in limited and perhaps covert military operations to preserve the hegemonic influence of the United States.

Whether we like it or not, the world listens when the U.S. president speaks. That means thousands of people across the globe heard President Obama promise to put military action on the table if chemical weapons were used in Syria. While Iraq and Afghanistan were ostensibly knee-jerk reactions to 9/11, the call for intervention in Syria is about what it means to be human.

When President Obama uttered the phrase “red line,” his aides were supposedly taken off-guard. According to the Washington Post fact checker, the New York Times reported his aides to have been surprised by his “unscripted language.” Nevertheless, the red line was there to stay. As the months progressed, the line became an international boundary, not limited to America. Turkey began to take up the call for a U.S.-led military strike against the Assad regime, as did France. If the United States does not intervene, another country will. If everyone intervened in the Syrian conflict, things would be much worse than if just the United States took action. Turkey would intervene to keep the Kurds from being independent. The Saudis and other Sunni nations would intervene on behalf of the Sunni Arabs. If the Shi’ite and Sunni divide is allowed to deepen any more, the violence is almost sure to spread to Lebanon. At that point, Iran would

feel forced to intervene as well, since the nation has already heavily invested in the stability of Assad’s regime.

According to the UN Human Rights Council, over 2 million refugees have fled Syria. That’s a jump of 1.2 million over a span of 12 months. That’s 100,000 each month, or over 3,000 people a day. Another 4.25 million are displaced within Syria, making Syrians more displaced than any other country’s citizens. This is not just a political conflict that leaders in air-conditioned conference rooms discuss and argue about. It’s a bloody, dirty, horrific, and disgusting display of violence that forces women and children to drink water that has already been exposed to human feces or faint in the heat. The World Health Organization has already issued warnings about outbreaks of cholera, a disease that kills in less than 12 hours and is highly contagious. Around 4 million people are at risk of starvation. A woman desperately told the Washington Post that they hadn’t had more than one meal a day in months, and that she had been unable to find baby formula for her baby for about a year.

I know I sound like a “bleeding heart.” I also know that the inevitable response will be, “But how many more will die if the U.S. intervenes?” It’s pretty easy for me to answer that with another question: how many more will die if we don’t?

Good intentions, bad results

DAVID SAULET
POLITICAL COLUMNIST

Since January of 2012, Syrian rebels and the Assad regime have been embroiled in daily acts of war. What’s worse is that a large percentage of the rebel campaign has strong ties to Al-Qaeda in addition to various Islamist factions and organizations in the region. Even with all the above in mind, a U.S.-led intervention in Syria will not achieve democracy or peace. U.S. intervention in Syria risks being the catalyst for even greater instability throughout the Middle East and lacks any coherent end-goal or conclusive vision for what success would look like.

Calculating how regional actors could respond to a U.S. intervention is critical. In a

USA Today article published Aug. 31, William Dermody articulates how, in the event of U.S. intervention, “Iran, a Shiite Muslim theocracy, can spur large Shiite populations in friendly Arab states to rise up against their leaders.” Such an occurrence could single-handedly establish a climate of chaos and fear across several countries, essentially creating more Syria-style conflicts. Furthermore, groups such as Hezbollah could activate sleeper cells across the globe, necessitating further military responses and, in turn, more violence. Despite our best wishes, intervention goes beyond Syria and would impact what King Abdullah II of Jordan called the “Shiite Crescent,” encompassing Iran, Iraq, Lebanon and Syria. Once we expand our scope to the entire region, we can see how precarious intervention truly is.

Starting a job is easy—finishing is the difficult part. Rightfully, Congress has pressed Presi-

dent Obama to present a clear military strategy concerning Syria. A Sept. 3 article from The Courant notes that a delegation of Congressional Democrats have asked President Obama to lay out the “precise objectives” for a U.S.-led air-strike in Syria. Such detailed plans have yet to be revealed because they do not exist. Just as in Iraq, America has built up a moral justification to intervene without fully assessing what a post-intervention Syria could look like from a geopolitical perspective.

All in all, we should be wary. The same reactionary rhetoric from a decade ago is resurfacing as politicians and foreign policy experts alike attempt to convince us of something that we already know to be untrue in the context of Middle East affairs: namely, that the U.S. military is necessary to serve as some sort of objective arbiter between the Arab World and their systems of governance, for better or worse.

Editorial: Celebrating intellectual diversity

DAETONA LAURENCE
SPORTS EDITOR

As a transfer student, I’ve had a very unique academic experience. I went from an extremely small high school to a slightly bigger college in the Midwest... and now I’m at Concordia, a university that easily doubles the size of my previous college. In the last few months, I’ve come to a significant conclusion that has altered the way I look at others and myself.

Recently, I have had the privilege of working with very diverse groups of people in the Concordia community. For instance, majoring in both English and Communication Studies has allowed me to get to know people with completely different academic interests. It may seem insignificant, but working with English majors rouses completely different viewpoints than working with Communication majors does. The people from each focus bring forth different ideas that allow me to become well-rounded.

I’ve met outgoing students, apprehensive students, students who have faced struggles in the past, easygoing students with no cares in the world, and more. I once took for granted the fact that I get to work with people from different backgrounds because I was unable to appreciate how important these small differences could be to my education. However, after interacting with these fellow students and colleagues, I have finally come to value the diversity of Concordia’s campus and the diversity of people I encounter in life as whole.

Last semester, I joined the Forensics team, more commonly known as the Speech & Debate team. Before I encountered the team, I didn’t even know what it was or what it did. I was convinced it had something to do with some CSI business or something. Luckily, I was wrong.

Being the new kid is hard in almost any situation; however, trying to assimilate into the Forensics team was the most intimidating thing I’ve probably ever done. The people on the team were some of the smartest people I have met to date, unlike anyone I had previously encountered. I was so overwhelmed by this unique group of people that after one day, I was ready to call it quits. However, I stuck with it and realized that the people on the Forensics team are special, rare, awesome individuals that I learn from every single day.

Irreplaceable experiences like the ones I have had in my majors and on the Forensics team have illustrated the mixture of people that have come to Concordia with the same goal as me: to grow as a person and as a student. I’ve learned that going to a school with a diverse campus can open my eyes to so much more than I’ve previously known. Once I realized this, I was able to really embrace Concordia and everything it brings to the table.

I often hear people mocking Concordia by emphasizing the stereotypes of people that attend the school, and if you ask some students on campus, we’re the least diverse campus in California. Pretty much everyone at the school can fit into some judgmental box that someone else has put us in. He’s a jock, she’s popular, he’s a Comm. major, she’s a nerd. We’ve all heard it. And sure, it’s almost impossible to resist the temptation to judge a book by its cover.

However, I know that the people who choose to come to Concordia have more to offer than basic stereotypes. All people have their own stories, their own experiences to bring to the table. Whether some people are able to realize it or not, this is a diverse university. The more we appreciate the different opportunities and people we are able to encounter, the more doors will open for us. Although it may sound cliché, as the end of my undergraduate career approaches, I’ve started to realize that I really am becoming “Wise, Honorable, and Cultivated” thanks to the experiences I’ve had at Concordia.

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Ice, Ice, Baby

Jessica Israel “ices out” competition in women’s volleyball

KRISTINA KRAUS
STAFF WRITER

In recent years, the women’s volleyball team has made a habit of creating a long winning streak. This year, Jessica Israel, junior, is helping the Eagles continue this tradition with her strength and positivity both on and off the court. Standing tall at six foot one with long blonde Rapunzel-like hair, Israel makes winning look like an effortless spike.

Israel is playing her in third year at Concordia as opposite hitter. Although Israel spent the majority of her freshman year on the bench, she used this opportunity to grow and improve as a player. “Every game I would get subbed in for a player and get a kill and sub back out,” said Israel. The more Israel played, the more she came out of her shell as an outside hitter.

Known by her teammates as “Ice” because of her demeanor on the court, Israel’s dedication to her team is obvious to everyone. “The court brings out the ice in my veins and I can serve,” Israel said.

Israel’s icy ways have gained her respect and recognition among her peers and teammates. “Jessica can hit harder than most guys,” said Kevin Fiske, senior men’s volleyball player. She was also the first Eagle of the 2013 season to be named the GSAC player of the week for her flawless performance against #20 Cal State San Marcos.

“Ice is the funniest girl in the group and she is so easy to get along with,” said Jordan Smith, junior teammate and one of Israel’s closest friends. Smith and Israel have played together for three years at Concordia and have witnessed each other grow as both athletes and people.

Smith admires Israel’s dedication and how much she has seen her teammate evolve. “Her court awareness has made her a dynamic powerhouse. Now, she literally just crushes balls,” Smith said.

Coming off of a highly unforgettable season with her teammates, Israel said that her goals this season were to adjust to the new freshmen, discover their new rhythm as a team and to win another ring. One personal goal Israel has already achieved for this season is taming her luscious locks. Israel said that her decision to swap out her staple messy bun for a polished pony with lots of hair spray has been a positive change.

Although Israel and the rest of her returning teammates have rings from their previous

championship, Israel upholds a superstition about her new ring. She said she would not wear her recently-earned bling because she is afraid it is going to bring bad luck to the current season.

Students and fans are enthusiastic about being able to cheer on Israel and the rest of the Eagles this season. “I look forward to watching women’s volleyball win another championship, just like last year,” said Robert Garrido, junior. “I’m looking forward to Jessica dominating the court and helping the Eagles go for that back to back.”

To see Israel and the rest of the team in action, attend the next home game on Oct. 1 at 7 p.m. against Vanguard University.



Israel celebrates the team’s championship win and hopes to repeat the feat this year.

Men’s Water Polo takes early lead

PATRICK SONSTENG
STAFF WRITER

The men’s water polo team is off to a successful season with a 5-1 record against nationally ranked NCAA teams. The Eagles enter their second season under Head Coach John Wright, who led the Eagles with a winning record last season while also taking the role of Head Coach for the women’s water polo team. Wright is assisted by Justin Johnson who returns for his second season, as well as first year assistant Bryce McLain.

The team trains consistently with early mornings and double days at William Woollett Jr. Aquatics Center in Irvine, one of the nation’s most elite aquatics facilities. This facility regularly hosts world renowned aquatics competitions such as the US Nationals and the US Open.

Although the Concordia team has not faced competition from similarly sized schools, they continue to take their skills to the next level. “We don’t have a conference or national tournament in the NAIA so we instead play against teams in the NCAA,” explained Johnson. Playing against larger schools has demonstrated how mighty the Eagles are, especially in a recent win against Div. 1 Cal State Long Beach. Following this win, the team traveled to UC Berkeley where they placed 11th at the NorCal Tournament. Concordia took wins over big name schools such as UC Davis and UC San Diego. Unfortunately, the Eagles encountered their first loss of the season to nationally ranked #2 UCLA, alma mater team and school of Assistant Coach Johnson.

According to the coaching staff, the team is very diverse, with a number of University and Junior College transfers, international students and incoming freshmen. There is a majority of returning athletes. “The great thing about JC transfers is that those players who were once your competition are now your teammates, and what skills used to be a threat are now weapons for your advantage,” said Meg Dix, sophomore transfer women’s water polo player. “Knowing how your teammates play at the beginning of a season is a huge advantage, especially in men’s polo.”

The Eagles are prepared and on the right track for an outstanding season led by a great coaching staff. The team is hopeful to see a continuation of the team’s winning streak in tournaments to come. You can support the Eagles today as they face off against the US Naval Academy at the William Woollett Jr. Aquatics Center at 11 a.m. or catch the 6 p.m. game at El Toro High School against UC Santa Barbara.

Men’s Soccer continues legacy

DAVID GARCIA
STAFF WRITER

The men’s soccer team came back from Prescott, Arizona with positive results and a 3-3 record. With a 3-1 victory against William Jessup, and a 2-1 victory against Embry Riddle, the Eagles were able to make adjustments and learn from their out-of-state trip. With a solid performance in Arizona, the team is ready and looking forward to the rest of their season.

The Eagles will have a big task this season as they carry on the legacy from last year’s work. Concordia went 19-3-1 last season, including a 10-2-1 mark in non-conference games. In true road games last year, the Eagles went 5-1-1, becoming one of the strongest teams Concordia has ever had.

However, this year’s team will not be intimidated. “Every team is different and we aren’t thinking about last year,” said Alex Antonescu, senior men’s soccer player. The Eagles understand their responsibility to one another in order to achieve the goals they have set for this year. “We are focusing on the next practice, the next game, and finally the GSAC championship,” Antonescu said.

The Eagles have their eyes set on these goals

and they are working on finding the right balance to improve their performance. “There is always room to improve,” said Ray Estrada, junior. “The team chemistry is going up and we can already see the results.”

It was a tough transition for the Eagles as nine seniors left the field last year. Despite the short time the Eagles had to build up a new team, they are already looking good. “Preseason is all about seeing what we have and how we can work with that,” said Assistant Coach Cheyne Gordon. The team has 18 new players, which puts the coaches on a race to create the right chemistry in the team before the season starts. “The last games have equipped us with a set of skills that will be critical during season,” Gordon said.

Students are also looking forward to the soccer season. “We need people in the stands to bang on the drums and blow the horns to support our men’s soccer team,” said Jamie Vaughan, senior. Giving the Eagles a crowd to play for will be important. “As a student, it is so much fun to go out and support them—you could really see the energy kicking in when everyone was chanting and supporting,” Vaughan said.

Concordia opens GSAC play at home against Arizona Christian on Oct. 2 at 1 p.m.



Jock Talk with Kristen Pepperling

THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER, STUDENT ATHLETES PROVIDE INSIDE PERSPECTIVES ON THEIR TEAM, COACHES, AND PROGRESS THROUGH THE SEASON.

The women’s soccer team at Concordia is more than just another group of girls who want to win. We don’t typically identify ourselves as a team who is simply “good on paper.” A reputation like that would be a disappointment to us, to say the very least. Yes, we want to win. However, winning doesn’t come easy when the only kind of nets on our field are the ones strapped to the goals.

This season, building team chemistry hasn’t necessarily been a piece of cake. As a team with a larger number of girls, it is more challenging to create and maintain relationships with every single person. Naturally, everyone has a small group with which we would identify ourselves off the field. But, on the field, things are different. If there is one thing that my teammates and I have in common, it’s that we will compete and fight every day until we get what we know we deserve as a team. Every one of us wants a shot at a National Championship because we go deeper than just the stats.

As a returner, I can speak from experience in saying that last year left the team with high aspirations and motivation to improve. All of us walked away from last season hungry for more. Our coaches set high standards for us because

they realized the potential we all have, and this season we know we are headed in the right direction. The whole team knows that we have to see every day as an opportunity to rise up. If we don’t, then none of us will be able to say we left it all out on the field.

I knew from the beginning of the year that being on this team would make me a more driven athlete and a bigger competitor. It didn’t take much to grasp that concept after getting to know my teammates. The women on this team make me want to be better, they make me work harder, and that is what will make us unique when we compete in our conference. We do what we can in practice knowing that it will influence our performance in games. Nobody on this team is ready to be satisfied. There is always room for improvement.

It is safe to say that our team has endured several hardships and obstacles that have made reaching our goals the second priority at times. However, I’m happy to say, I have learned that moments and experiences that sometimes hold us back have brought us closer together as a team. What is truly important is that when a member of our group needs someone or something, any one of us would drop anything to be there, and we wouldn’t expect anything less of each other.

Setting high standards for each other applies both on and off the field—we know that. If you’re a part of the women’s soccer team at Concordia, you know that “good enough” never is.



ALICIA HARGER
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With décor straight from a Pinterest board and a set of hors d'oeuvres to match, Joy Keith's dorm home is the perfect place for a meeting of the Real Dormwives of Concordia.

"Welcome, welcome. Sit down. Can I get you a drink?" Joy is the epitome of hospitality.

Soon enough, the group of four women is seated around the table—laughing, snacking, and talking like lifelong friends. Joy, Stacie Mallinson, Brenda Ruehs, and Summer Anderson make up a cadre of women living on campus with their husbands and children.

For Summer, moving onto campus this year is really a return home. Summer and Pastor Quinton Anderson both completed their undergraduate degrees at Concordia. The bubbly woman is busy transitioning from life in Colorado. "We left so much of our life. Trying to be involved is harder—but it just feels right," Summer said. "We're really here to be a part of the community."

Summer explained that the choice to come to Concordia was serendipitous for her family.

"We got the call to be campus pastor and just let it happen. We fell in love here and it's exciting to come back," Summer said. Living on campus is also great for her children, Jonah and Kaden. "They have more friends their own age here than they did in our neighborhood," Summer said.

Joy is the veteran of living on campus. This is actually her second stint as a non-student resident of Concordia. Joy and Scott Keith lived on campus for two years from 1996 to 1998 when Scott was employed as the RD. She moved into Gamma with Scott and their three children for the beginning of spring semester 2013. "I feel like we've come full circle," Joy said.

"Now we have a student here." The Keiths' oldest son is currently a freshman here at Concordia. Joy's hospitality toward students has made her into a sort of surrogate family member to many students. "It's 'Aunt Joy' or 'Auntie' to a lot of them," said Joy. "We're really trying to fill in as a family when students are far away from their own families." Whether it's for a home cooked meal or just a listening ear, students are never turned away from the Keith's home.

Stacie is the only one of this group who is

employed by Concordia. She works as the Director of Alumni and Family Relations. Stacie and her husband, Dr. Jeff Mallinson, live in the Global Village hall. The family is exploring their role on campus. "We're trying to give a piece of other cultures to students here," Stacie said.

The Global Village hall is a great fit for the Mallinson family; even the Mallinson children, Auggie and Aidan, "love new things... especially crazy and bizarre things," Stacie said. "Jeff has a passion for traveling and nurturing the relationship with students." The Mallinsons aren't afraid to tackle new challenges; the family is training their kitten to use the toilet. Stacie also feels living on campus is beneficial to her position in alumni affairs. "Families enjoy that I'm here to be part of the experience. I think I give them a little peace of mind," Stacie said.

For Brenda, moving on campus was an immediate yes. "I really liked the idea of living on campus," Brenda said. "Everybody thought we were crazy for it." Because her husband, Jonathan Ruehs, is a DCE, their family was around youth and kids quite often anyway. "It was an instant decision. It wasn't a big adjustment; now we just live with them," Brenda said.

As well as taking care of her three children, Noah, Taylor and Sam, Brenda works part-time as a pre-K teacher's aide. "We want our students to know they can come to us for whatever reason," Brenda said. "A lot of students are away from home for the first time. We want to build community and let them know we're here."

Living with families in close quarters to college students isn't always the easiest situation. For Stacie and Brenda, reducing to one bathroom was a major challenge. The lack of privacy can be hard, too, especially with teenaged children. Joy misses her backyard the most: "I miss the backyard for our dog and for yard work. I like doing yard work so I've replaced a yard with my little garden."

"I don't miss things I thought I would have a problem with. And I miss things I never would have thought of," Summer said. "There are so many things you get to take. It's not just giving up."

What unites these women isn't their walks in life or even their geographical nearness. These dormwives of Concordia are united by their servant's hearts, their Christian willingness to love and their familial optimism.

It Just Adds Up: Dr. Amanda Croll new Math professor

ISABEL RAMOS
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Amanda Croll, Professor of Mathematics, joined the Concordia faculty on July 1. Croll teaches three sections of Core Math and one section of Linear Algebra. "I just love mathematics and I want people to understand that it encompasses so much more than what K-12 schools teach," Croll said.

A Texas native with a welcoming smile and a tender approach to teaching, Croll credits her father for her love of math. When she was young, they played fun math games which created a positive association with math for her. "My goal is to show a different side of math," Croll said.

Her aim is to be a positive influence for students, especially young women in the male-dominated math field. "Linear algebra is a very hard class, but Dr. Croll is very approachable and makes things easier to understand," said Corey Kelso, senior.

Croll spent the past six years working on her Ph.D. in Mathematics at the University of Nebraska, where she also taught as a graduate teaching assistant. Besides having her doctorate in Commutative Algebra, Croll is also a certified scuba diver and loves going on bike rides. She is enjoying living in Irvine with her husband.

Tim Preuss, Dean of Arts and Sciences, explained that the procedure for hiring new faculty is very complicated and time consuming. "It takes about one year from the time the job

is posted to the time they are hired," Preuss said. It is competitive, and only a few applicants are even eligible for interviews. There are a lot of people that need to approve each potential candidate before a mutual agreement of who is the finest candidate is made. A lot of time and effort is spent on choosing just the right candidate for each available position.

More than their degrees and qualifications are taken into account; Bret Taylor, Mathematics Department Chair, explained that applicants are also considered for their faith and their contributions to Concordia. Since this is a Christian university, it is important that teachers are able to exude their faith and apply it to the subject they are teaching.

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Solar Decathlon to be held in Irvine

International collegiate competition emphasizes alternative energy and creative design

GARRISON DE VINE
STAFF WRITER

Orange County Great Park in Irvine is going to host the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon Oct. 3-13. The competition challenges student teams to design and build energy-efficient solar homes which will be judged on a variety of criteria. The criteria include architecture of the homes, engineering, communications, affordability, comfortability, hot water, appliances, home entertainment and energy balance. This is the first time the Solar Decathlon will be held outside of Washington D.C. since the competition started in 2002. The event occurs bi-yearly and will include competing student teams from around the world. One team is coming from as far as the Czech Republic to compete.

“Over the last decade, we have seen the Solar Decathlon houses integrate the latest innovations in renewable energy and energy efficiency, including more technologies and systems that are available today and affordable. This includes everything from ‘smart’ energy management systems to highly efficient appliances and efficient building design,” said Jason Lutterman, Communications Specialist at the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. “In addition, the 2013 teams will be allowed to feature an electric vehicle with their house, demonstrating that clean energy living extends outside the home.”

“The sun is a resource—that is literally shining twelve hours out of the day—that needs to be utilized. Activities like the Solar Decathlon are ones that promote the idea of cleaner, greener energy that will allow us to continue our lifestyle without having such a detrimental effect on the environment in which we live,” said Angelica Grigsby, senior.

Along with the solar decathlon there will also be the XPO: an exposition of clean, renewable, and efficient energy. The XPO will include a variety of guest speakers, educational activities, classes, an art exhibit, a competition of student-designed electric vehicles in their trial phases, a farmers’ market, and trade show booths featuring several solar companies. Guest speakers and presentations will vary over a wide

variety of subjects including Green Careers, making your home and business green and how cities can make themselves more environmentally friendly.

The actual days of the events are Oct. 3-6 and Oct. 10-13. The event is being held at the Orange County Great Park, which is located at the geographical center of Orange County. For CUI students without a car, there will be a shuttle provided by OCTA that will be picking students up from UCI at the crossroads of Campus and UCI Center, which is a short bike ride from the CUI campus. The shuttle itself will cost \$2 to ride to the Solar Decathlon. Admission to the Solar Decathlon and the XPO is free. More information on the Solar Decathlon can be found at www.solardecathlon.gov.



Construction of the energy efficient houses has begun at the Great Park.

Global Village celebrates international heritage

BRYCE KELLEY
STAFF WRITER

The 12th annual Irvine Global Village Festival is coming to the Bill Barber Park tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Irvine Global Village Festival was founded in 2001 to help raise awareness of other cultures within and surrounding the Irvine community. Around 20,000 visitors are expected to attend.

The festival offers many different attractions free of charge. From live music to unique cultural food to general family fun, there is something for everyone who attends. According to the City of Irvine, the festival is the “city’s largest and most attended community event. Recognized as the best cultural festival in Orange County, Global Village features more than 100 performances on five stages.”

“There are \$1-\$3 tastings from 40 restaurants, over 30 cultural exhibits with free giveaways and shopping at 40 international mer-



Abbey west provides shuttle service to off-campus churches

QUINN BEATTIE
STAFF WRITER

Abbey west, the student ministry program run by Concordia, has begun Sunday shuttle services to off-campus churches for the first time this year. Students wanting to connect with Christ and to attend church with fellow classmates are invited. This is the first year the service has been offered to students. Abbey west is helping students get involved outside of Concordia and encouraging them to establish relationships with outside churches.

Abbey west is helping students connect to Christ by implementing their mission to “make disciples of a new generation.” Every Sunday students can meet at the Grimm Hall breezeway at 9:30 a.m. to attend their church of choice. They are offering services to five different churches: Light of Christ, Faith Capistrano, St.

Paul’s, Christ Costa Mesa and Salem in Orange.

Right now, there are organized vans to Light of Christ Church and also Faith Capistrano—these are the most heavily attended churches by students—but carpools are being planned and organized by other students who are able to drive.

Information can be found online at the abbey west website, abbeywest.org, or on Facebook. Facebook groups are being formed for each of the churches to organize rides and carpools throughout the week; interested students can find those groups by searching for “Concordians at (church name).”

“It’s important for students to get involved in local churches because it gives them the opportunity to develop their faith outside of the school community,” said Nicholas Duerr, senior Care Ministry Coordinator.

The shuttle services will give students this

opportunity to grow and expand their faith, along with connecting to other Christ following students.

“Having been limited to on-campus activities my freshman and sophomore years, it has been a good experience to become involved in a local church,” Duerr said.

All students are welcome to meet at Concordia on Sunday mornings to take the shuttle to church. It is also greatly appreciated if students are willing to drive and carpool with other students to avoid taking a van for only three students.

For more information, students can join the Facebook groups, look at the abbey west website under the section “Your Discipleship” (subsection “Worship”), contact Nicholas Duerr or On-Campus Pastor Quinton Anderson.

chants, a free raffle drawing for a trip and gift cards with completed survey,” said Mya Sanders, Cultural Arts and Activities Superintendent for the City of Irvine. “Plus it is a day outside not studying!”

There will be no on-site parking for this event. However, shuttles will be provided from many different areas surrounding the festival from 7 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Another fun way to get to the Festival is by biking. There are many different trails to get to the event, and you can store your bike at the free Bike Valet, hosted by the Bicycle Club of Irvine and the Orange County Bike Coalition. Biking is an easy and environmentally great way to get to the festival. Handicapped parking is available at the San Juan or Civic Center parking lots adjacent to the Festival.

The festival was voted the 2009 Best Festival by OC Weekly and is ready to live up to that statement on Saturday. For more information about the event, entertainment schedule or shuttle schedules, visit irvinefestival.org.

Physics Club’s uncertainty principle

TAYLOR HANE
STAFF WRITER

Due to the increasing interest in science at Concordia, plans for a new Physics Club are in the works. Although physics has been integrated into some of the other science clubs on campus, the addition of the Physics major has sparked a demand for an individual club. “The Physics Club in particular is meant to be a complement to the new Physics major that has been introduced this year,” said Cassie Hollman, senior and Vice President of the Physics Club.

There has been a large increase in the scientific clubs available on campus in the last couple of years as the sciences have expanded, and

more students are looking for ways to get involved and meet people with common interests.

Students who wish to broaden their science backgrounds are encouraged to look into the club. “Members from other majors are, of course, welcomed and encouraged,” said Hollman.

“Although I am not a Physics major, I enjoy physics and would love to be a part of a club that allows students to explore physics in a more relaxed environment,” said Nicole Smith, junior Biology major.

“You don’t have to be a Physics or even a Science major to benefit and have fun,” Hollman said. The club is simply to encourage students

who share the same interests expand their horizons and knowledge.

“We hope to have a lot of guest speakers this year, as well as a lot of well-known physicists to come to our events or to speak at our club once it is up and running,” said Nestor Nunez, junior and President of the Physics Club.

Future plans for the club also include a trip to a theme park and various joint events with the Chemistry Club. The club is still awaiting final approval. Once the Physics Club is official, the board looks forward to scheduling their first events. Contact Nunez for more information at nestor.nunez@eagles.cui.edu.



Artist Spotlight: Christina Vogt

My name is Christina Annalisa Vogt. Some odd little facts about me: I love to drive around and get lost, I like to people-watch (yes, creepy I know), and I don't like words of affirmation. I live in glorious Laguna Niguel, California. People think, "Wow! You live by the beach. You must go there a lot!" Honestly, I am not a fan of the beach. I love going to the lake.

And, now that you know me a little better—I am an artist! I am here at Concordia studying Graphic Design with a Marketing minor and I will be graduating this May. I am an illustrator, painter, drawer, photographer, graphic designer, and—hopefully, one day—an animator. A couple of years ago, I saw a Pixar documentary describing what Pixar Animation Studios was all about and I automatically fell in love with animation. My goal is to work for Disney or Pixar as an animator someday.

I knew what I wanted to do for the rest of my life in my senior year of high school, during the only art class I took. My teacher had us draw our favorite celebrities. I chose to draw Audrey

Hepburn, and the second I started drawing her, I fell in love with art. I have the drawing on my wall to remind me of what I love to do, along with a quote from Audrey Hepburn that says, "Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm Possible!'"

When I began applying to colleges, I planned to apply to the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising and here, Concordia. I only applied to Concordia and obviously got in. God had this plan for me to come here, to create lasting friendships, and to help build a community through being a Resident Assistant.

One thing people don't know about me is that I never decline offers to create works of art for people. I am constantly designing logos, taking photos, and doodling. I agree that the EARTH without ART is just EH!

When I am in the creative zone, you can often find me with unsweetened tea and jamming out to Mumford and Sons, Of Monsters and Men, The Lumineers, and All Sons & Daughters, alongside my computer and my black

doodle pens. Whenever I am sitting in front of my computer or when I have a marker in hand, I forget the world for a few hours and just unwind. To some people that might sound rather strange, but I find it relaxing. I do everything for the glory of God and I don't take the credit for my talent; it is because of Him that I create!

After college, I don't know where I am going to go. Wherever God leads me, wherever He takes me—that's the plan so far. I might head to San Francisco, back East or living back at home with my parents. Who knows where my artistry will take me? Hopefully I'll go somewhere fun and adventurous.

Some of my artwork is hanging on display in the first floor entryway of Grimm Hall. I have a portfolio website at christinaannalisa.daportfolio.com and I also have a Facebook page for you to like: Christina Annalisa Design & Photography. I am so thankful for the talent God has given me and I am so blessed to be able to use my gift for Him.

"Where charity and love prevail, there God is found"

KATHERINE DUBKE
GUEST WRITER

Concordia's annual Fall Festival of Hymns returns the first weekend in October, featuring the creative efforts of guest organist and director Dr. David Cherwien and his wife, poet and guest reader for the concert, Susan Palo Cherwien.

There will be two separate events the same weekend: "Do Not Let My Words Fall to the Ground: Cultivating Creative and Divine Spark in Writing," a workshop led by Palo Cherwien on Oct. 5 at 4 p.m., and the Fall Festival of Hymns concert on Oct. 6 at 3 p.m.

The Concordia Choir and the Master Chorale will present familiar and contemporary hymns that "celebrate the Christian faith tradition from around the world," said Dr. Michael Busch, Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music. The Fall Festival of Hymns is a tradition that began with previous choral director, Dr. Michael Burkhardt. Busch has continued this tradition, "[maintaining] an active annual festival of hymns."

What distinguishes this Fall Festival of Hymns from Concordia's other annual concerts is that the audience is included in the participation. It is a concert "where the audience becomes the performer" and essentially, "the audience is the most important choir," Busch said. All who attend are "given an opportunity to worship."

"I like to shape hymn festivals around themes that matter to us today," Cherwien said. This year's musical theme is based on the song "Ubi Caritas" by composer Maurice Duruflé. The text translates as follows: "Where charity and love prevail, there God is found. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart." Cherwien mentioned the turbulence of terrorism and the chaotic world that we face daily. "When the world says war, but the song says peace, we will trust the song...the incarnation is Christ coming among us to say, 'Don't be afraid,'" said Cherwien.

Regarding the content of the Hymn Festival, Cherwien said, "This program makes use of songs from quite a span of time, [from traditional] chant to modern chant...from Africa, from all over." He credits organist Paul Manz for teaching him improvisatory techniques. "Most of the songs will be introduced by improvised 'preludes'—full interpretive pieces rather than prefatory introductions," said Cherwien.

Palo Cherwien has prepared special reflections to accompany the music—a blending of words and song. "This love of music, poetry, theology, and spirituality has come together perfectly for me in the writing of hymn texts—words which are meant to be sung, that have to be good in the mouth," Palo Cherwien said.

In addition, Palo Cherwien will be hosting a creative writing workshop which will complement the Hymn Festival with its theme of "creativity" and "divine spark." When asked about the effect music and words create, Palo Cherwien said, "We produce vibrations of beauty with our very breath...the heart—that place where body, mind, and spirit come together—is moved, quite often changed, by what we sing."

All are invited to attend these special events that celebrate the gifts of words and song. "I hope [this event will] provide a sense of momentary relief from the stresses of our lives and [the] world," Cherwien said.

The Fall Festival of Hymns will take place on Sun. Oct. 6 at 3 p.m. General admission \$15; Seniors \$10; Students FREE. Purchase tickets at www.cui.edu/TheArts.

"Do Not Let My Words Fall to the Ground: Cultivating Creative and Divine Spark in Writing" will take place on Sat. Oct. 5 at 4 p.m. It is FREE for all who desire to attend.



One of Vogt's art pieces based upon Matthew 7:24-27, the story of the house upon the sand and the house upon the rock.

Not your high school's Glee club

Stage Door 141 provides musical theater opportunities

BROOKE SPRINGER
STAFF WRITER

Two of Concordia's experienced musical theater enthusiasts—Wesley Barnes and Alexandra Dominguez, juniors—have created a new group, Stage Door 141, to encourage individual performers to grow as artists.

"Stage Door 141 is a small company of Concordia students who wish to really challenge themselves and excel in the arts," Barnes said. "This company gives its members the opportunity to work with one another learning songs, choreography and scenes—not to show off, but

to broaden their artistic abilities."

Barnes decided to found the group to address the need for students to apply musical theater skills and grow as artists. "We saw that there was a dire need for a group that was geared towards musical theater," Barnes said. "This group gives its members the opportunity to grow in areas that they may not feel as strong in. For example, a student who has more experience with singing could also use this opportunity to become a better dancer and actor." Due to the lack of musical theater performance opportunities, the company members of Stage Door 141 meet twice a week to practice.

Since Stage Door 141 is a brand new group on campus, Barnes and Dominguez partner with Lori Siekmann, Assistant Professor of Theater, who is the group's mentor. She helped run the auditions and contributed to the company's member selection process. A lot of talented people auditioned, but only a select few were picked. Barnes, however, affirms that there is still an opportunity to be a part of the company. "We hold auditions earlier in each semester and select as many students as needed," Barnes said.

"I am so ready to show that Concordia stu-

dents can work together and produce quality work. We are a very small theater department, but we are strong," Dominguez said. "We believe that a group like this could really represent the department well, and show what we are capable of."

"We are artists who work hard to produce quality work, and we look forward to presenting it to the Concordia community and more," said Barnes.

Sean Derbyshire, senior and member of Stage Door 141, said, "There is so much to musical theater and this group helps me to explore more of that world. Wesley, Alex, and Siekmann really challenge us in all aspects."

"I joined the group to work on strengthening my confidence in performing musicals, especially my singing. I also wanted to learn fun dances and hang out with my friends," said Briana Kolmer, sophomore.

"All of the members of the company made the decision to be a part of this company because they all share a love for performing," Barnes said.

To learn more about Stage Door 141, contact Barnes at wesley.barnes@eagles.cui.edu.

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,
How do I overcome senioritis when I really, really don't give a \$%!+?
Love,
Slacker Senior

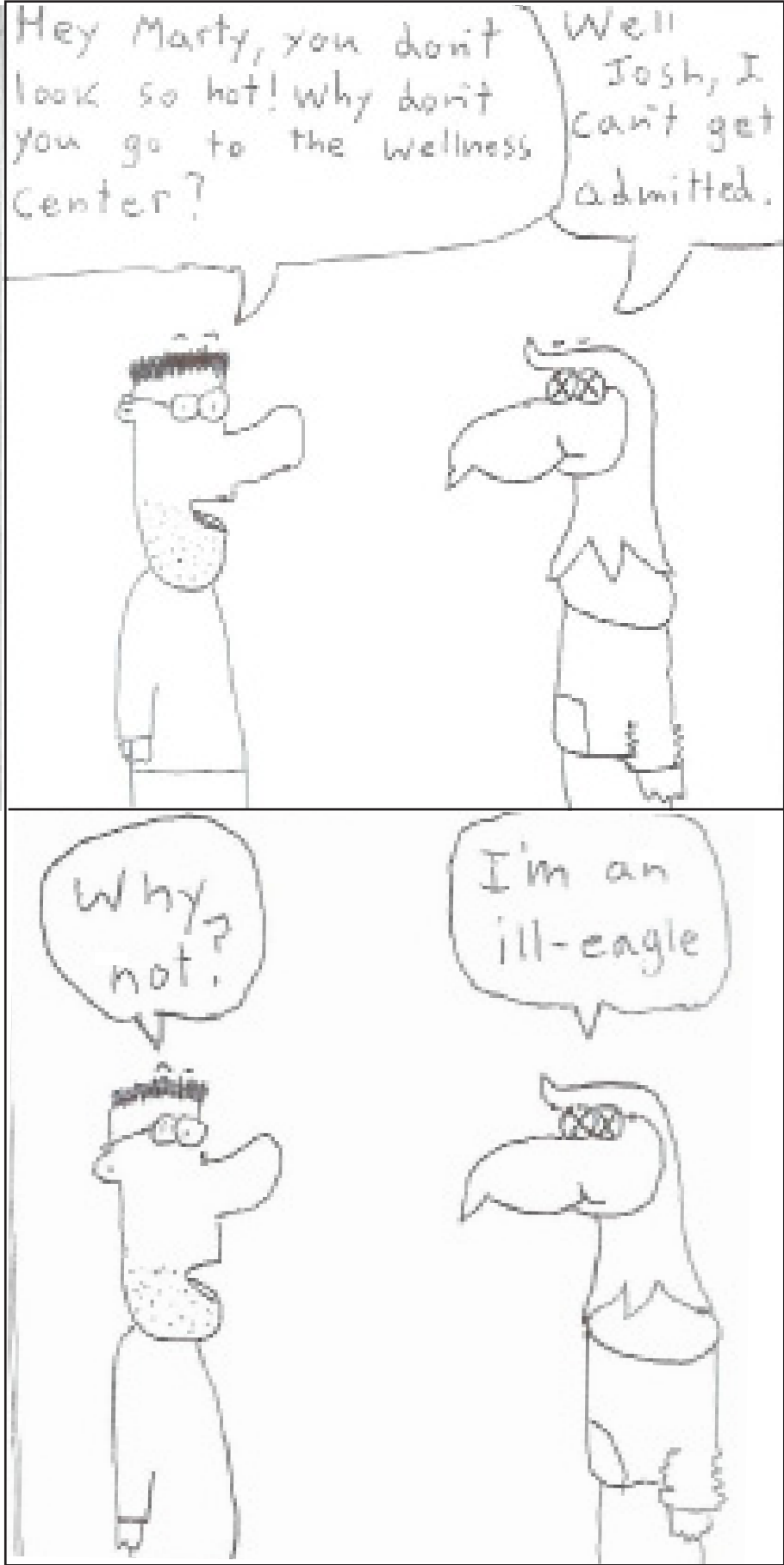
Dear Slacker,
Fun fact: the term for a series of symbols used to signify a curse word is called a “grawlix.” Now, on to your senioritis: the root cause of your affliction might be that you’ve worked your butt off for three whole years to get to this point and now there’s no threat of college acceptances to keep you accountable. But keep in mind that YOU HAVE WORKED THREE WHOLE YEARS TO GET TO WHERE YOU ARE.
You’ve had 7:30 a.m. classes, countless papers and assignments and the Core, and you’ve gotten through it all. You’ve also probably paid thousands of dollars to go to school here, and taken out loans you’ll be paying off until long after you’ve forgotten the importance of the Fibonacci sequence. You have

worked too darn hard to get to this point and fail a class, causing you to stay an extra semester to graduate. No one wants that. So here’s how you can overcome senioritis and pass all your classes:
Step 1: Try to schedule your classes for later in the day so you’re not tempted to sleep in and miss them. This is somewhat pointless this far into the semester, but keep it in mind when scheduling next semester’s classes.
Step 2: Know exactly where you are in your classes so you can do the bare minimum and still pass. Take advantage of the easy extra credit assignments so you can afford not to do well on a test later on. Keep track of your grade so that you can slack off but also pass.
Step 3: Break up your tasks into smaller ones so they’re easier to accomplish. You can take long breaks in between and have time to live your life, but make sure you’re getting stuff done.
Step 4: Ask for help when you need it! If you are really going to fail, talk to your professor and see what can be done. Get involved in a study group with friends so you can get your work done, have fun and keep each other accountable.
Overall, just remember how much you’ve put into your education at Concordia, and don’t let yourself mess it up this far into the game. Good luck, and I hope NOT to see you here next year!

Love,
Abby

Fowl Living

ERIK DER



Diversity Awareness hosts movie night

BRITTNEY GARNER
STAFF WRITER

The LEAD Diversity Awareness program is hosting a monthly movie night to bring students together and promote cultural awareness. On Sept. 13 they showed the movie *Selena* in the Outdoor Amphitheater. The movie was shown on a projector outside, and around 25 students huddled on their blankets while they enjoyed hot chocolate, popcorn and cotton candy. Because the movie was chosen in honor of National Hispanic Awareness Month, they also served Mexican sweet bread.
“We want to support Concordia and work to educate and respect every culture our school is made of through the various events we put on,” said Ericka Cortez, senior member of the Diversity Awareness program. Another member of the program, Nikki Ancona, freshman, said, “I thought the movie choice was perfect in light of it being Hispanic Awareness month and my favorite part of the night were all the tasty snacks.” The Diversity Awareness program is encouraging more students to participate and help Concordia become more culturally mindful.
“I am very interested in learning about other cultures and would like to attend the next movie

night. I think having food from different cultures would make it more interesting too,” said Abel Landa, freshman.
There will be an announcement for the October movie night soon. They plan to show a movie that will promote German culture in honor of Oktoberfest. “We will probably show a Hansel and Gretel film,” Cortez said. A special German-themed lunch will take place on Oct. 8 in the Student Union to allow students to get a chance to taste some German cuisine.
On Oct. 20 from 1-4 p.m., there will be an off-campus trip to downtown Huntington Beach’s Old World, where students will be able to experience German culture, food and shopping. “I’m looking forward to the off-campus trip to Old World because I would like to become more knowledgeable of German culture, especially their cuisine,” said Lindsey Dela Salas, junior.
More announcements of upcoming events will be coming soon. The next movie will be shown at a new location for better viewing quality, likely the lacrosse or soccer field. “We want to keep a positive atmosphere here at Concordia,” Cortez said. “Everyone is invited and the Diversity Awareness members look forward to seeing you at our next events.”

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Strong start for Beloved and Battalion

TAYLOR BUNDY
ARTS & REVIEWS EDITOR

The men's and women's Bible study groups, Battalion and Beloved, will be starting their small group studies the first week of October. Anyone interested in joining a group is encouraged to contact one of the new coordinators for Battalion and Beloved: Zach Oedewaldt, senior, or Shannon Alavi-Moghaddam, junior.

Oedewaldt and Alavi-Moghaddam have already given new life to Battalion and Beloved. One of their first prerogatives was figuring out how to create lasting small groups since attendance has tended to decline in recent years. This goal was the basis for the selection of the theme verse this year: Hebrews 10:23-25.

Instead of having one introductory meeting where students could sign up for small groups, Oedewaldt and Alavi-Moghaddam decided to use the month of September to feature a joint men's and women's Bible study every Wednesday night. They were held in Sigma Square and led by Pastor Jim Gwaltney from Light of Christ Lutheran Church in Irvine.

The idea behind the large group Bible study with both Beloved and Battalion was because "we wanted to allow students who were interested in a Bible study to be able to meet other people before committing to a group," Alavi-Moghaddam said. "It also gave students an opportunity to meet the leaders beforehand and see who they would connect with."

Regarding Pastor Gwaltney, Oedewaldt said, "It's great to have a local pastor lead a study; it's someone you don't see every day. I've known him for three years now, and he's really good at engaging people and initiating discussion."

The turnout for the first Bible study in Sigma Square was so successful that students were lined up along the back wall for lack of seats. "I was not expecting a lot of students to have a desire to delve deeper into God's Word, but I see that now through these groups," said Cody Peterson, junior and Battalion small group leader. "But when Sigma Square is *filled* with people, it's such a blessing to see, to see people eager for God's Word and fellowship."

Jessica Abel, junior and Beloved small group leader, said, "Even though we had a different group of girls every week, each group already seemed really comfortable with each other. Everyone had a willingness to be honest and open regarding the topics. It felt really relaxed, even though I had only met some of the girls that

day."

Another improvement for Battalion and Beloved this year is simply having an overarching theme to unify the small groups. This gives each group the freedom to choose what they want to talk about each week instead of having to mirror the other groups.

Although Battalion is still deciding between a couple of themes, one of the options is studying the men in the Bible, such as David, Daniel, Paul and Peter. Beloved is also considering a similar option to study strong Biblical women. The small group studies will not be strict or have lesson plans; alternatively, they will flow based on the needs or direction of the members.



Having fun at Huntington Beach during the Beloved Getaway Day in September.

LINDSAY DUERR

Eagle Rock upcycled as Commuter Lounge

MICHELLE MARTIR
STAFF WRITER

Eagle Rock will re-open as a commuter lounge around mid-October of this year to provide a place for all students to relax, study or socialize. When Eagle Rock was a late night grill, more money was being spent to maintain it than it was making. The building is currently under construction. A wall is being put up in order to separate the kitchen area from the lounge. ASCUI President Jamie Rivera said, although space is limited, "we are working with what we have." Rivera sees this as an opportunity to make the lounge "a little bit more 'homey.'" Once finished, the revamped Eagle Rock will include a refrigerator, a microwave, a television, couches, a study area and, possibly, lockers. Currently, commuters do not have any of these benefits on campus.

In order to keep the lounge community-based, ASCUI decided resident students will be able to enjoy the benefits as well. "I'm not sure if I'll be spending a lot of time there, since I am currently living on campus, but it would be nice to have another place to hang out and study," said Michelle Morgan, junior.

With the student population at an all-time high, places such as Emendare are usually full. Commuter students might look forward to this new lounge as an alternative space and crowd relief. "I will definitely spend more time on campus now that this lounge will exist," said Sean Mattila, junior, "especially in between classes when there is enough time to hang out for a while but not enough time to go home."

Arianna Vaughn, junior, said that she, too, is looking forward to the commuter lounge. "I can stop bugging my friends to see if they're in their rooms or not," Vaughn said.

As soon as the lounge is finished and ready for the public, ASCUI and LEAD's Commuter Outreach will work together to put on a grand opening event. The exact date is not yet determined, but, if everything goes as planned, the new commuter lounge will open sometime mid-October. Once it is open, LEAD's Commuter Outreach is hoping to host commuter events there. They will likely be the group in charge of maintaining the lounge over time. Email Rivera at jamie.rivera@eagles.cui.edu for more information.

Upcoming intramural President's Bowl

KATHY ABERG
STAFF WRITER

On Fri. Oct. 4 from 6-9 p.m. on the soccer field, various intramural flag football teams will compete in the President's Bowl. All students, friends and family are invited as the men's and women's flag football teams play in the championship games. Guests can look forward to food vendors, bonfires, games and prizes, all while enjoying the games out on the field.

Dakota Voas, senior and LEAD Coordinator of Intramural Sports, said that the best part about playing flag football is "scoring touchdowns and seeing your teammates get that excitement going when they pull a flag or score touchdowns." Voas also said that she likes that the games are now on Friday nights. "It helps freshmen have something to do on Fridays, since a lot of them don't have cars. It's also better because all the games are now on one night, instead of three nights of the week," Voas said.

Dr. Kurt Krueger, University President, said that his favorite part about the President's Bowl is "getting to see all the students participating, not simply on the field, but there is a lot of support and interest from the student body as well. It is a good time to celebrate each other and to celebrate Concordia." Along with watching the current students play, Krueger is looking forward to seeing all the other Concordia alumni who come out to this event. "I am also very impressed over the sportsmanship of all of the

students," Krueger said.

Many students who play flag football find it to be an easy way to relieve stress, and a great way to get out of the dorms and away from homework. "Flag football is pretty much my favorite extracurricular at school. I can go out and just have fun," said Taylor Wells, junior player for Team Pink. "It's good to feel like a student athlete again, and to feel like I am part of a team, like I was in high school."

Team Pink is the women's returning champion team from last year. They have won all five of their games this season. "We have a lot of fun. It's more about having fun together than beating another team, and we really just love being out there," Wells said.

Another returning champion team who is excited about this year's President's Bowl is men's flag football team Top Gun. Robert Daum, Austin Derryberry, and Tanner Wade, seniors, have been playing intramural flag football for the past two years and state that their team's success is due to their good chemistry. Top Gun is also undefeated this season and they are hoping to keep this winning streak going during the playoffs this Friday. "It would be really cool if we won the President's Bowl again this year. That would make it two years in a row for us," Wade said.

Come out and support your fellow students and peers next Friday night and enjoy the last flag football games of this year's season.

Talking to the stars: Astronomy guest lecture

WILLIAM RICHARDSON
STAFF WRITER

On Sept. 17, the Departments of Chemistry and Physics hosted a seminar by Dr. Pierre V. Sokolsky, Dean of the College of Science and Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Utah. The presentation was planned in conjunction with the addition of the Physics major.

"In the 21st century, physics is everywhere," said Dr. John Kenney, III, Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Physics, Director of Chemical Physics Laboratory, and Chair of the Departments of Chemistry and Physics/Astronomy. "It drives all of the computers, cell phones, and all electronic devices. Physics is ubiquitous in modern medicine, and so there are many job opportunities for people who have a knowledge and a background."

Rikita Patel, senior pre-med Chemistry major and Astronomy Club President, did not miss the opportunity to witness such an amazing guest speaker. "Even though he was very distinguished, he was still able to put things into terms that undergrads were able to understand, and was very successful in keeping our attention the whole time," Patel said.

A lot of the seminar discussed the study and

relationship of ultra high energy cosmic rays. "One of the things students took away from the presentation was the excitement of scientific discovery. Despite all that we have learned about cosmic rays in the last years, there is still so much we don't know," Kenney said.

"[Astronomy has] always sounded like an interesting topic, but I know it has a lot to do with physics and that's not my strongest subject," said Robert Shiroky, junior.

"Even with [non-Physics] majors, discussions like this allow students to learn more and could possibly change their minds about the subject," Patel said. "They could have a fear of astronomy because they think they have to have a complete understanding of physics, which isn't the case."

In order to keep up with the growing expansion of the Physics, Chemistry and Biology majors, a new Science and Nursing Center will be built as part of Concordia's master plan.

To ensure that students have continuing opportunities to learn from the greatest minds in the field of science, more guest speakers will be invited to present throughout the rest of the semester.

The next seminar will be held Sept. 30 in De-nault Auditorium. For more information, contact Kenney at john.kenney@cui.edu.