

# The Concordia Courier

Investigate. Inform. Ignite. Involve.

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Friday, November 14, 2014

## Women's Volleyball honors graduating seniors

CHRISTOPHER RAWJI  
STAFF WRITER

Come and support your Women's Volleyball team tonight at 7 p.m. in the CU Arena for their last game of the regular season as they take on William Jessup University.

Tonight is special because five seniors will be honored for all the hard work and dedication they have put into the program. The five seniors who will be honored tonight are Meagan Brady, Jenee Henderson, Jessica Israel, Reanna Schelhaas and Jordan Smith.

The Lady Eagles have been on fire this season and are coming off an incredible road trip

where they won in straight sets against conference opponents Vanguard University, San Diego Christian and Arizona Christian. This helped improve their overall record to an astonishing 30-2 and 14-1 in conference play.

Smith said her favorite moment of this season was coming back from being two sets down to win in five sets against the University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB). "We had a great crowd and our team was determined to win," Smith said. There is no doubt that a lot of the Lady Eagles' success, especially in the UTB win, is due to the great leadership the seniors have shown throughout the year. "I remember looking up to older girls when I first came in, so I constantly think about being a good role model

for my girls and the program," Schelhaas said. Fellow senior Israel agreed that all the seniors on the team "had to step up as leaders and teach the underclassmen how our team works."

The seniors of this team will never forget tonight. "When I think of Concordia Volleyball, I think of family," Israel said. "These girls are some of my closest friends and we have created really strong bonds that will carry into our future lives outside of Concordia."

Similarly, Schelhaas anticipates that tonight will be one she remembers and cherishes forever. Unfortunately, due to a knee injury, Schelhaas will not be playing.

The five seniors mean a lot to this team and the underclassmen they've been mentor-

ing throughout the season. "Their leadership and presence on the court will be missed," said sophomore Taylor Dennison. It is going to be difficult and emotional for this team to lose not only their teammates, but also their friends. "I will miss them all, but I wish them the best of luck as they start a new chapter in their lives," Dennison said.

Although the regular season is over and this last game is a time to honor the seniors, the women are still getting ready to make another run at a National Championship. Be sure to keep an eye out for your Lady Eagles in the National Tournament starting later this month and follow their bid for another National title on [www.cuieagles.com](http://www.cuieagles.com).



Seniors Jessica Israel, Meagan Brady, Jordan Smith, Jenee Henderson and Reanna Schelhaas will be honored in tonight's game.

## Win prizes! Win trips! Suitcase Bingo tonight!

TAYLOR MORRISON  
STAFF WRITER

The annual Suitcase Bingo event, hosted by LEAD, will take place tonight at 7 p.m. in the Student Union.

"Suitcase Bingo is a fun event where students can come and play a big, good ol' fashioned game of bingo, with a twist," said Lauren Stevens, senior LEAD Student Activities Coordinator.

The twist that Stevens mentioned is a variety of prizes awarded to winners. There will be 10 rounds of bingo played with one winner in each round. Nine lucky winners will get to choose from a variety of baskets filled with prizes stuffed by the LEAD coordinators. The lucky 10th winner will win the grand prize of a surprise getaway for two leaving directly after the bingo festivities. Remember to pack your suitcase before arriving to the Student Union in case you are that lucky 10th winner.

Senior Alexis Farrar, LEAD Coordinator, said that last year's Suitcase Bingo had such a huge turnout of students that there were not enough seats for everyone.

Because of the popularity of this event, LEAD added in some new perks and prizes so that each student can feel like a winner once they leave Suitcase Bingo. One new addition to Suitcase Bingo is that the first 50 students will receive a lotto scratcher. Additionally, raffle

prizes consisting of gift cards will be handed out between each bingo round, and a nacho bar will be set up for students to snack and enjoy throughout the games.

All current Concordia students are welcome to participate. "All you need is your student I.D. card and an appetite to win," said Stephanie Yzaguirre, junior LEAD Coordinator. Students are welcome to come in at any time to play; the doors will stay open throughout the entire event so students are able to play a few rounds or stay the whole time.

The LEAD coordinators would love to see a larger turnout than last year and they are hoping the additional perks and prizes will draw in more students to make it the biggest crowd yet.

Sophomore Hayden Kirkman, last year's Suitcase Bingo grand prize getaway winner, cannot wait for Suitcase Bingo tonight. Last year Kirkman won an overnight trip to Universal Studios for two with two annual passes to Universal Studios along with many more prizes. "Suitcase Bingo was awesome! It was great to be there with my friends. [It was] a great event to

end the week," Kirkman said.

"Suitcase Bingo is a tradition of Concordia's. The students love it and it is a great community-building event," Stevens said.

Come out tonight to win prizes, cheer on friends and eat some delicious snacks.

There are more prizes and bigger baskets this year, so do not miss out! For more fun festivities, stay tuned for LEAD's next event, in conjunction with ASCUI, Concordia Christmas, which will take place on Dec. 4.





## ATW III: *Serving in India*

CURRENTLY A GROUP OF CONCORDIA STUDENTS, PROFESSORS AND GRAD ASSISTANTS ARE TRAVELING FOR CUI'S SEMESTER AROUND THE WORLD. THESE ARE THEIR STORIES.

SETH PREUSS  
CONTRIBUTOR

You can't put Kolkata in a four hundred-word box. The smells and vivid displays of color on every street would take five hundred words on their own. Still, here is a small taste of our time in this incredibly diverse city.

Our time in Kolkata was spent serving at the Mother Homes alongside the Missionaries of Charity. I was blessed to return to Daya Dan, a home for children with various types and stages of disability.

Two years ago, I had the opportunity to serve alongside the Sisters on the first floor. This time I was placed on the second floor with more severely disabled children.

Each morning, I and six other CUI ATW members would arrive at Daya Dan after a typical breakfast at Mother House – chai, bananas and bread – and begin with laundry. Every house begins the day washing laundry, though the amount varies by day and location.

Laundry wrapped up around 10:15 on a good day, and the volunteers – called aunts

and uncles by the children and employees at the homes – were dismissed for tea. After break, we would get to play or sit with the children until 11, and then it was time for lunch.

Each child had a different ability level at the table; some were fed by the volunteers, some could feed themselves with help and some were able to eat by themselves. I fed a girl named Kusum on most days. Kusum is blind and doesn't have great motor skills, but can eat if you put the food on the spoon for her.

Lunch is followed by the afternoon nap, and after the volunteers help put the children to bed, the day is over.

All this is very peaceful when contrasted with the city itself. The barrage of sound, smells, sights and spiritual devotion to polished rock is overwhelming at times. Peace and quiet are at a premium – both exist but are difficult to find. The homes are not always peaceful, yet they are full of peace. It is fascinating to me how quiet a noisy room can seem when it is the playful joy of children in contrast to near-constant honking.

I am thankful for the chance I had to return, and I am excited for the team to share what they saw when school starts again in January. We are enjoying the time here but we are excited to be with our friends and families back at Concordia in just a short time as well. God bless!



Jessica Schrank, Abigail Bretzmann, Angela Deurr and Joanna Steinhaus in India.

## Swimming and diving contend for championship

VAHN BOZOIAN  
STAFF WRITER

With the Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving season in full swing, this year's group has made a strong case for themselves as title contenders for the NAIA National Championship in Oklahoma City. This season has been successful thus far, in swim's first four meets and diving's two competitions.

The dynamic diving duo, consisting of senior Haley McVay and sophomore Demi Seghezzi, has taken advantage of the first two meets of the season. Seghezzi qualified for Nationals in the first and McVay qualified in the second event. With the NAIA Championship already in clear sight, the upcoming events will be important for these two to work on upping their degree of difficulty for postseason purposes.

Seghezzi, who placed fourth at Nationals last season, and McVay, who placed fifth, plan to build on last year's performance and make an impact on the team's overall points.

"I am looking forward to the rest of the season and cannot wait to see where [Seghezzi] and I finish in the standing at Nationals, while having the opportunity to represent Concordia," McVay said.

The swim team seems to be on a similar pace as the diving squad. With 26 swimmers qualifying for 49 National event cuts in only the first four meets, it is showing that this year's squad is on pace for a season of the ages. Nolan Stimple,

senior middle-distance swimmer, is certain that this year's squad brings tons of energy, starting with the newest additions to the coaching staff. Assistant coaches Chris Culp and Christa Prior have incorporated a weight program for the first time, along with advice about technique under Head Coach Jeff Boss. "A lot of personal records have been set this year, and we have yet to have a Taper Meet (which includes full body shaving, caps and tech-suits for speed)," Stimple said.

Sarah Jamieson, junior freestyler, is equally excited to continue the season and compete in Nationals. "This year's team looks very strong, and it will be great to see more people qualify for Nationals," Jamieson said. Sixteen women and 10 men swimmers are looking forward to Oklahoma, as other swimmers will race against the clock in order to make the cuts. Laszlo Perlaky, senior long-distance swimmer, is confident that this year's group has what it takes. "This year's group has an extremely talented freshman class that has picked up right where last year's seniors squad left off," Perlaky said. After losing key seniors last year, the new class of incomers has proven instrumental to the continued success of the team.

The swimming and diving teams will continue their season tomorrow at the Orange County Invite. This meet will take place at 10 a.m. at Soka University of America in Aliso Viejo. Come out and show your support to this group of aquatic Eagles in their quest for the NAIA Championships in Oklahoma City.



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## Men's Basketball starts season strong

MEAGHAN B. CURRAN  
STAFF WRITER

The Men's Basketball team kicked off their 2014-2015 season with a win against the University of Redlands on Tues., Nov. 4 in the CU Arena. From tip-off to the sound of the final buzzer, the men dominated the competition offensively and defensively. The final score was 128 to 85. The team ran the ball effectively and collectively shot over 50 percent from the field.

Junior shooting guard Matt Scott started off his first game for Concordia strong by adding 17 points to the overall win. Scott was 8 for 12 from the field and 1 for 3 from the three-point line.

Scott has been playing basketball as long as he can remember and has dreams of playing professionally once he obtains his degree in Communication Studies at Concordia. He sets a high standard for himself offensively and defensively and wants his team to win the NAIA Championship title. Scott considers himself a scorer and tries to do his job as effectively as possible to achieve a win.

"We're really aggressive, very competitive and work together," Scott said. "The team all has trust in each other." Scott also feels that the coaching staff has a great deal of confidence with the individual players on the team, which drives him even more. He encourages his fellow classmates to come out and watch the games because it's exciting basketball. Fans and their energy are what drives us," Scott said.

DeLaun Frazier, senior shooting guard, also contributed 11 points to the win. Frazier has been a part of the program for four years and is

looking forward to his final season as an Eagle. He feels that this team is different than previous teams because there are a lot of new, talented players.

"Everyone seems pretty determined and hungry for a championship," Frazier said. He also added that the team's biggest hurdles this upcoming season are being mentally ready and focusing primarily on defense. What will help them defensively is communication, staying in lanes and a great deal of energy. "The team's philosophy is hard-nose, man-to-man defense," Frazier said. Frazier was 4 for 8 from the field as well as 3 for 7 from the three-point line.

Assistant Coach Brett Lauer is in his fourth season with the Men's Basketball program. Lauer is excited about this year's squad and their upcoming season.

According to an interview found on the Men's Basketball website, Lauer said, "We got a lot of production out of pretty much everybody on our team." He also felt that the team moved the ball well, played cohesively and was consistent offensively. "We have a lot of unselfish guys that just like winning," Lauer said. This helps with team connection and will help them win games. In order to stay successful for the rest of the season, the team needs to "stay hungry, stay humble and get after it."

The Eagles are 2-0 in their season so far, beating Warner Pacific College on Fri., Nov. 7, 96 to 89. The men will play Cal State San Marcos at home on Wed., Nov. 19 in the gym at 7:30 p.m. For more information about the team and their schedule, visit [cuieagles.com](http://cuieagles.com).



Matt Scott drives for a layup helping the Eagles to victory.

## Men's Soccer falls at GSAC

ALLY WAGGONER  
STAFF WRITER

Men's Soccer played in the GSAC tournament on Nov. 8 with a tough 1-2 loss to Vanguard University in the semifinal game at home. The Eagles had a strong season with a record of 11-3-2 and were feeling confident going into the GSAC tournament.

"The past two years we were conference champions, and this year we missed out on that by one point," said Head Coach Chris Gould. There was great momentum going into the tournament with the team winning 6 out of their last 8 games. Some of the most notable players from the season include seniors Edgar Orozco, Ray Estrada and Kayvon Afsarifard.

"The biggest strength our team has is how we stick together when times get really tough," Afsarifard said. Starting out, the men were not performing like they were at the end of their last season.

"Our biggest competition this season was ourselves," Afsarifard said. The team continued to play hard until the final whistle last Saturday, but, in the end, came up with a tough loss. The team had many opportunities in the game to push past Vanguard by taking a total of 15 shots on goal, while Vanguard only had 5.

Vanguard was considered a big competitor because the Eagles had already lost to them in double overtime earlier in the season.

"Our team is full of players that are potential starters and that is what you want because it pushes all of us to want to get better," Estrada said. "It's definitely a blessing to be a part of such a talented group of individuals that can come together so close."

"The playoffs are what make this game so interesting, so at that point, it's win or go home, which, for an athlete, is one of the best challenges," Estrada said. As a senior, Estrada described the team as having a family-like environment, and he feels like that is what contributed to most of their success this season.

All in all, this season will definitely be used as a motivator for years to come. Men's Soccer continues to be in the top spots coming out of conference and remain one of the strongest programs to represent Concordia athletics. The perseverance the team shows throughout each game is only rivaled by the best teams and will continue to be a tradition among the players.

The men still have a chance to continue their season with an at-large bid to the NAIA National Championships. This will be announced Nov. 16 and will be held in Delray Beach, Fla.

Although the loss to Vanguard may feel like a disappointing end to the season, the men still showed outstanding sportsmanship and came together as a hardworking and dedicated team. For more information on the Men's Soccer team, visit [cuieagles.com](http://cuieagles.com).



Edgar Orozco playing in Saturday's game vs. Vanguard University.

## Cross country season comes to completion

MEGAN.M. ILLSLEY  
STAFF WRITER

On Sat., Nov. 8, the Men's and Women's Cross Country teams participated in their final race of the regular season in Santa Clarita. The men's team finished in fourth place overall, placing them ahead of their 2008 record. The women's team also had an impressive day, which landed them in fifth place. Ashley Bell, junior, ran an 18:23 on a rigorous 5k course, and came in fifth, while Robert Blackwell, junior, ran an impressive 27:20 8k run. Bell has qualified for Nationals, which will take place on Nov. 22 in Lawrence, Kan.

It has been a semester filled with triumphs and accomplishments. One of Bell's favorite memories was the Vanguard Invitational. "The Vanguard Invitational was really good for everyone; we had a lot of (personal records)," Bell said. The Vanguard Invitational took place part-way through the season and it gave the team renewed confidence.

However, at the same time, challenges arose as the team was rebuilding. "We had a few setbacks this year, but we've been able to work with what we have every time and make the best of it," said Matthew Soto, senior.

With the men's team consisting of six athletes, and the women's team only five, both teams have continued to persevere and remain strong. "I am incredibly proud of our team and all they have accomplished this season. They have shown an amazing work ethic and a commitment to each other that is inspiring," said Carrie Sherburne, Assistant Coach.

"We have low numbers, but high spirits. It's difficult to perform at the level we would like to perform at when we are lacking numbers," said Jorge Jabaz, '08, Assistant Coach. "We, as a coaching staff, are very excited for next year. We are putting in extra time in bringing in one of the best recruiting classes in CUI track and field/cross country history," Jabaz said.

In return, the athletes have enjoyed work-

ing with coaches who care to see them succeed. "The coaches have done a good job of making us more of a complete athlete. Jabaz is the first person to believe in us," Soto said.

This is Sherburne's first season as Assistant Coach. "Coaching combines my desire to help others with my passion for running. My overall goal as a coach is to transform my life's experiences into values for others and help them to develop their own gifts as athletes, team members,

students, individuals and believers in Christ," Sherburne said.

For all but Bell, the cross country season has come to an end. However, many of the athletes will compete year-round as track and field season is approaching. The team will be back at it again with the first race of the indoor track and field season on Dec. 6 at Concordia. But before then, follow Bell's race to Nationals via [www.cuieagles.com](http://www.cuieagles.com).



Junior Ashley Bell qualified for NAIA Championships with her fifth place finish on Nov. 8.



# Tellin' stories and weavin' baskets

JONATHAN SERRANO  
STAFF WRITER

On Wed., Nov. 5, LEAD Diversity Awareness invited Jacque Nunez to lead a Native American Storytelling and Basket Weaving class. As part of this class held in the CU Center, Nunez explored the history of her people of the Acjachemen Nation and their culture.

The class started with introductions as Nunez made her way through the audience of about 25 students. Each student was asked for their name and their major, which set the tone early for student involvement.

Ivan Dino, freshman, saw it as “not just a presentation, but an interaction.”

After the introductions, Nunez began her storytelling. The stories incorporated the morals of the Acjachemen people and how their cul-

ture functions.

Nunez's excellent storytelling has received praise from USC, winning the Most Outstanding Speaker Award for three years. “[Nunez] was so into her stories that it brushed off onto me. She couldn't lose my attention,” said Adam Salcido, freshman.

In addition to her storytelling, Nunez even invited the class to participate in singing a few songs. These stories led to teaching the class

about the tools that the Acjachemen people used.

Nunez invited people from the audience onto the stage to present these Acjachemen tools and their baskets. The tools were all made of different animal bones; her people did not let anything go to waste. The meat of the animals nourished the tribes, the bones became tools and the fur became clothing. This was a bit of a social commentary on today's wasteful society. This was also why Nunez had the audience repeat the three Rs to becoming a more thoughtful individual: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle.

Nunez also brought her nephews, who are award-winning powwow dancers, onto the stage. They were dressed in their full tribal garb for the dance and they moved to the tribal music. The dances were very upbeat with a lot of footwork and movement around the stage.

Once the dance was over, the audience was asked to join them on stage. Together, the class held hands in a circle and moved to the music. The class then was encouraged to greet every single person in the circle. The performance ended with Nunez asking everyone to hug at least five people before leaving the stage.

Once the performance was over and everyone was back in their seats, the basket weaving lesson began. This was the final touch for getting the audience involved with as much hands-on activity as Nunez could squeeze into her small amount of time. From singing tribal songs to dancing the tribal dance, this workshop was a great way to introduce the Acjachemen culture to Concordia.

For more information about Nunez's inspirational work, visit Nunez's website at [journeystothepast.com](http://journeystothepast.com).



JACQUE NUNEZ, FACEBOOK

Students join in with Nunez and the dancers during the very interactive presentation.

## Night of Hope to support Heavenly Treasures

MEGHANN R. MORALES  
STAFF WRITER

The sixth annual Night of Hope, a student-run fund-raising event, will be held next semester at Concordia on March 14. The purpose of the event is to raise money for this year's organization of choice, Heavenly Treasures.

The mission statement of Heavenly Treasures, founded by Kathy Gaulton, is “to equip and assist people in developing countries to break the cycle of poverty through their handiwork and creativity.” The organization “focuses on handicraft projects that allow the development of a micro enterprise, leading them down the path to self-sufficiency.”

It began when Gaulton went to serve for a short-term mission trip in Africa with the New Life Christian Church and Empowering Lives International (ELI). Throughout this trip, Don Rogers, Director of ELI, challenged Gaulton to think of a way to help the women in poverty with a type of business. Gaulton had the idea to make bags out of the local fabrics because sewing was something that all the women were able to do. This was just the beginning of the creation of Heavenly Treasures. This group is based on Matthew 6:19-21, which says “Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven... for where your treasure is there your heart will be also.”

At Night of Hope, “there will be two bands,

a food truck, different vendors, an art section to paint and much more,” said Night of Hope Events Coordinator Mariah Neilson, senior.

“I am looking forward to supporting Heavenly Treasures to help bring hope and God's love to those living in poverty. I am also looking forward to having a great time listening to the different bands that are coming to support the cause,” said Night of Hope Volunteer Coordinator Alyssa Vossler, senior.

Freshman Zoe Litzenberg is thrilled to help out with the Night of Hope event. “I'm looking forward to how students connect with the mission of Night of Hope,” Litzenberg said. “I'm excited to learn what goes in to making a huge event like this, and to see how God moves in Concordia through the event.”

One of the reasons the Night of Hope coordinators and volunteers chose Heavenly Treasures as the organization to support is that the founder of this group does not keep any of the proceeds. “I also think it's great that this charity just doesn't give people things, but provides an opportunity for them to support themselves,” Vossler said.

According to its website, this organization is “capitalized through donations, grants and other charitable funding. Each project is funded by the products that are marketed on their behalf.”

Night of Hope tickets will be on sale next semester. For more information about this event, contact Neilson at [mariah.neilson@eagles.cui.edu](mailto:mariah.neilson@eagles.cui.edu). For more information about Heavenly Treasures, visit [heavenlytreasures.org](http://heavenlytreasures.org).

## Whisper allows students to connect quietly

WILHELMINA ANNE GEVAÑA  
STAFF WRITER

On Tues., Nov. 11, abbeywest hosted Whisper, an event that allowed more than 50 students to participate in a night of interactive communal prayer time. Abbeywest began organizing the program before the fall semester commenced and successfully brought light to a few different ways prayer can be implemented in a Christian's life. The event was held at the CU Center, giving everyone involved a comfortable open-area space to reflect upon the past few weeks and to internalize the solemn act of prayer.

*“When you pray,  
it is only between  
you and God.”*

*-Care Coordinator  
David Marble*

As the CU Center was lit partially with Christmas lights, candles and soft night-lights, the overall look and feel of the event was quite intimate and comforting. There were a few prayer stations at the event, including the Lord's Prayer, Praise, Prayers of Thanksgiving, the Forgiveness fire pit and much more.

Spiritual Care Coordinators Anna Valazza and Courtney Thornton, juniors, as well as David Marble, senior, were all quite pleased with how the event turned out. Valazza said that the program was a good way for the students to build a relationship with their peer ministers, to know that they are the ones they can open up to and are there to pray for them in times of

spiritual need. “It was a good way to strengthen our community and make prayer more known on campus,” Valazza said.

Thornton said that the name for the event, Whisper, was inspired from the Bible verse 1 Kings 19:11-13, where God reveals himself through a gentle whisper. “Prayers are quiet and are typically at a tone of a whisper,” Marble said. “When you whisper, the message is conveyed only between you and another person. In a similar way, when you pray, it is only between you and God.”

“Each station is unique in demonstrating different aspects of prayer and why we practice them,” Thornton said. The stations were each facilitated by a peer minister, enabling those who were encountering these ways of prayer for the first time to let go of all doubts and be completely immersed in the experience.

“Prayer is important for a faith-based community because it keeps us rooted to our roles as disciples in God's plan for us,” Thornton said. She also said that the peer ministers of abbeywest hold a prayer walk weekly, devoted to the purpose of praying for our campus and especially the student body.

Sophomore peer minister Steven Todd attended the event and said, “It was good to set aside time to connect with God.”

Since finals are just around the corner, the event served as a great means to relieve some of the stress most students are facing and was a perfect way to lift up all their worries to God. “It is remarkable, being able to directly communicate with Him and also helping others to express the love that stems from Him,” Marble said.

“We want to know what we can do for students to further aid them in their spiritual life, and get them involved,” Thornton said. Examples of other ways to get involved include November's focus on Christian missions, Thursday Shout servies and Beloved and Battalion groups. Students are also encouraged to attend the Shout tailgate next Thursday evening.

For more information and other student activities, visit the “Student Life” tab on MyCui.





# Helping Orange County's homeless

LOGAN COMPHEL  
STAFF WRITER

On Thurs., Nov. 6, the Concordia Cares program, along with several other students, participated in the Illumination Foundation event for the second time this year. Concordia Cares volunteered at their Children's Resource Center.

The purpose of this foundation is to help eliminate the amount of homelessness in Orange County. Over the years, Orange County has agreed that this issue of homelessness is now considered a crisis that needs to be resolved.

This event was very important to not only the Concordia students who worked at the event, but also the people from other OC foundations who were there helping. The Illumination Foundation's vision is to break the cycle of homelessness using innovative, integrated care and a unique public and private partnership.

The Illumination Foundation is an organization that is on the rise and has been making differences each year, putting thousands of people into homes as well as feeding them. There are an estimated 28,000 homeless children in Orange County alone, and over 177,000 children go hungry every day in OC.

It is Illumination Foundation's mission to provide targeted, interdisciplinary services for the most vulnerable homeless clients to break or prevent the cycle of homelessness.

The Concordia Cares program believes they can help make this foundation expand and help them each and every year to help reduce the amount of homelessness in OC. This event is something fairly new to the Concordia Cares program, but something that they plan on keeping and attending for the many years to come due to good feedback from the people who at-

tend the event and also from the people who run the event.

In Orange County, the cost of living is very expensive; this is the root cause of the large number of homeless people on the streets today. For reference, a minimum wage worker would have to work 125 hours a week to afford a one-bedroom apartment. It is hard to imagine working this much while caring for a family.

The Illumination Foundation event for the CUI students was led by sophomore Elisabeth

Mullins, Concordia Cares Coordinator.

It is never too late to make a difference in the community, and it is never too late to join the Concordia Cares program. Concordia Cares welcomes all students, faculty and staff to participate in their various events. Contact a Concordia Cares coordinator or look for information on upcoming events that help strengthen the community and carry out the mission of our university.



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# Midterm elections redshift the nation

KEITH CORLEY  
STAFF WRITER

As the final election votes come trickling in, despite there being a few races to be run in the coming months, there is one fact that is very clear: the Republican Party has taken control of almost every aspect of U.S. government. From the Senate to the State Assemblies, voters overwhelmingly favored Republican candidates.

In the election closest to home, Keith Curry, Concordia's Director of the Center of Public Policy, ran against Huntington Beach's Mayor Matthew Harper for the 74th district seat in the California State Assembly. Unfortunately, it was a tough night for Curry, losing to Mayor Harper who brought in more than 59% of the

vote. Curry, who also sits on the Newport Beach Council, attributed his loss to the unpopularity of Measure Y, which he supported. Measure Y would have brought new development to Newport Beach, but the majority of the electorate was convinced that the vote would also lead to a massive increase in traffic.

The most contested races of the night belonged to the Senate. Previously, the Democrats had control of the Senate and more than \$4 billion was spent in the last two years in a proverbial war for control of this incredibly important legislative body. Analysts from across the country predicted that there would only be 10 Senate seats that were really up for grabs, and in order for the GOP to take control, they would need to win six of those seats. Republicans ended up ex-

ceeding expectations and won seven seats, and odds are that they will win the remaining two.

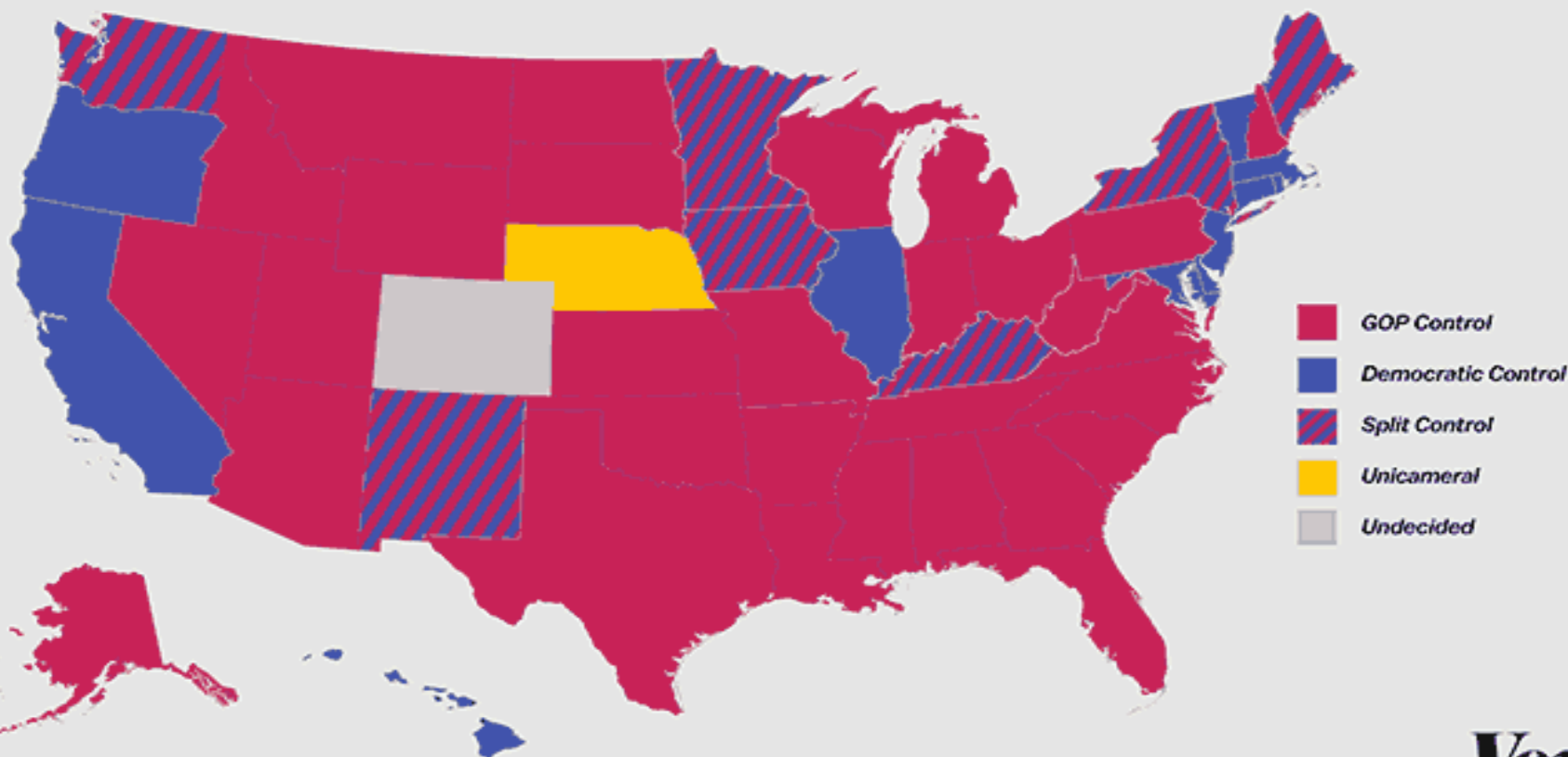
In the other national race, all of the members of the House of Representatives were running for re-election. The Republicans ended up steamrolling the Democrats to take their largest majority since WWII. With races still not called, the GOP now holds sixty more seats in the House than the Democrats do, currently holding a 244-184 lead.

Though the election process now brings in a major change at many levels of government, the electorate does not believe that anything is going to change. "This election was still incredibly partisan," said Peter Doesburg, senior. "That just means that a different group of people will refuse to work together."

It is hard to imagine that even less will get done in the two years this groups of legislators have together. The previous members of Congress passed only 185 bills, which is the fewest number of any congressional body in United States history. Most people hope that something will at least get done. "There are so many important issues," said Josh Vannoy, junior. "I mean, somebody needs to start doing something about these student loans"

Considering this, it is hard to be optimistic about what the next Congress can do about our country's woes. But looking back to how horrible their predecessors were, we can all hope for brighter times ahead.

## POST-ELECTION STATE LEGISLATURE CONTROL



Source: National Conference of State Legislatures

Vox

# "Peace by Piece" Grimm Hall art exhibit is a jawdropper

JOSEPH PAGANO  
STAFF WRITER

Mosaic artist Mia Tavonatti and local Laguna Beach impressionist Nicholas Hernandez showcased their talent and work at the "Peace by Piece" art exhibition in Grimm Hall, which was facilitated by Niclas Kruger, Assistant Professor

of Art.

Tavonatti's illustrious installation, "Svelata," which means "reveal" in Italian, pops out to all viewers with its warm textures of gold silk and its complex fashion. The portrait radiates loneliness, as a middle-aged brunette lies astray within the mess of the different fabrics of blankets. The fluorescents of the John and Linda Friend

Art Gallery helped exasperate the subtle hues within Tavonatti's photo. "Svelata's" deep colors appeared just as ambiguous as the installation's opaque meaning.

"Throughout my life, only one thing has remained constant: my conversation with the Divine," said Mia Tavonatti on her self-scribing artist profile. "This dialogue has written itself into my work since I picked up my first crayon. Over the years, my spirit has been developed, explored and revealed through my content and my craft."

Tavonatti studied illustration at California State University Long Beach where she also had the opportunity to complete her MFA. Tavonatti has been a professional artist for over 20 years and has gained acknowledgment not only in America, but in Europe as well. In 2007, Tavonatti had her first solo debut at the Museo Arsenale in Italy, where she unveiled "Svelata."

"It's amazing to see artists connect their craft to a spiritual level. Tavonatti's art really transcends a lot of meaning," said Ramon Rich, junior, who attended the exhibition. "It's truly amazing to see the artists' talent displayed in their work." Rich, currently studying business, was enlightened to hear how spiritual revelation can occur during the artist's creation process.

"Peace by Piece" was a small exhibition that was composed mostly of sculpture, painting and glass mosaic artists. Hernandez, the other artist featured, showcased his talent with a different medium and approach than Tavonatti. A golden girl statue sat aimlessly parallel to "Svelata" under a bright warm light. The piece depicted a young woman sitting very nonchalantly on some type of stool.

Hernandez was born in San Francisco and raised in Southern California. He prides himself with his beautiful bronze sculptures that primarily focus on the anatomy of the human body. Hernandez has a strong background in music and often attributes his reasoning for his work through simple vocal melodies.

"The wind does not sing because it has an answer," said Hernandez in his Saatchi artist profile. "It sings because it has a song."

For more information about upcoming art exhibitions, visit the Arts page through MyCui.



Hernandez's piece "Chelsea" is indicative of his style, which captures motion and fluidity in a still medium.

# "Reckless" set to be an impressive theatre performance

ALEXANDRIA RIOS  
STAFF WRITER

On Jan. 9, 2015, Concordia's Theatre Department will ring in the new year by putting on their own production of the play "Reckless."

Professor Tony Vezner, Associate Professor

of Theatre, decided on this play because he likes the idea of having a variety of different types of plays under his students' belts, so that when they start to work in the real world, they will have experience in multiple types of productions.

"Reckless," written by Craig Lucas, is a dark comedy that focuses on a dream world where a housewife learns everybody is not who they are made up to be, all while meeting some interesting people along the way.

"This play is a bit post-modern/strange, while still being a comedy," Vezner said.

Complexity plays a big role in "Reckless," whether it is the plot, characters or set design. "I have performed in plays that are complex, but not as complex as 'Reckless' will be," said Wesley Barnes, senior, who has been cast in many other on-campus plays. Alongside Barnes is senior Alexandra Dominquez, who is also a returner to Concordia's stage.

Even though the show will not premiere until January, the cast started rehearsal this past Monday night. "I feel as though we have less time to perform this than we normally would, so it will actually be really tight," Dominguez said.

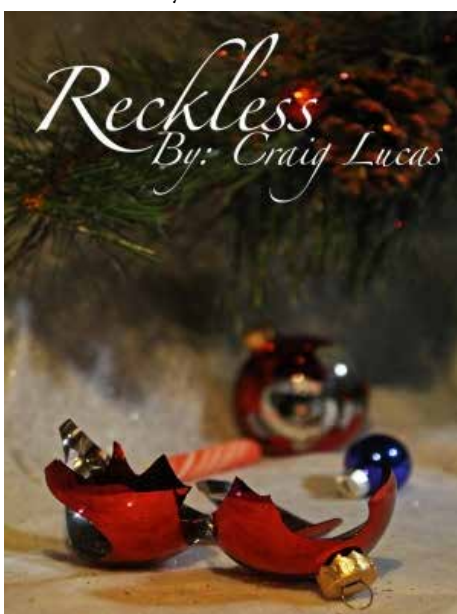
As Thanksgiving and Christmas break are in the middle of rehearsals for this production, the

cast will be spending part of Christmas break to rehearse. "It is fun to be able to hang out, eat pizza together and be able to act as a family," said Vezner about rehearsing during the first week of break.

The cast of "Reckless" are not the only ones excited for opening night. Breanne Arnold, sophomore, took the Introduction to Theatre class last spring and became a fan of the arts. Seeing last spring's musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone," was the turning point in Arnold's outlook of the theater. "I was never a very big fan of live theater," Arnold said. "Even though it was a class requirement to attend ['The Drowsy Chaperone'], I was willing to see it again because it was so great." Arnold said that she will be attending "Reckless" if it is anything like "The Drowsy Chaperone."

Current Intro to Theatre student Christine Baker, sophomore, said she is excited to attend the free show.

Do not miss out on "Reckless," which will be opening on Fri., Jan. 9, 2015 and continuing on Jan. 10, 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 11 and 18 at 2 p.m. in the Blackbox theater.



# Gettin' jazzy with it

*Jazz Combo's performance emotionally expressive*

PETER DOESBURG  
STAFF WRITER

The CUI Jazz Combo performed Monday night in Good Shepherd Chapel. The Jazz Combo, under the direction of Professor Peggy Duquesnel, Director of Jazz Studies, played a collection of jazz pieces that served as a perfect way to undo the stress of the day.

"Jazz is more of an expression than other music," said saxophonist Morgan Coburn, sophomore. "It doesn't just follow the music on the sheets."

Duquesnel, during introductions of the members, said that "Coburn transcribed a piece by Miles Davis, and when she had completed it, Coburn felt a better understanding of what jazz meant." This was clear in both the performance of Coburn as well as the rest of the performances.

Jazz is one of the few types of music that is more about what the musician is feeling at the moment than what the notes on the paper dictate.

Combo Manager Robby Stegman, sophomore, said "Jazz opens you up to experiences you might not otherwise have; we give you culture." Stegman has been a percussionist for ten years, and along with drummer Jon Geidel, sophomore, kept the music "that is the most relatable on campus" to a steady beat that accentuated the rest of the group.

Freshmen Nate Darlington and Vinh Vu swapped duties on the bass guitar and lead guitar and pressed their strings to translate their feelings to the listeners.

"Jazz is a great way to explore new music genres that aren't necessarily popular," Darlington said. Their closing tune was of the Calypso genre, and the upbeat tempo had the audience grooving along with them.

Trombonist Brian Jackson, sophomore, completed the combo with the bass of the brass complementing the spectrum of sounds. The CUI students were accompanied by pianist Ketheri Lirio, and the audience was treated by a solo performance on the piano by Duquesnel.

"The performance was awesome and the music is great to listen to," said Sam St. John, freshman.

Jazz, to some, can be an acquired taste, but once you experience it, you'll not be disappointed. The different tempos, the intricacies of the notes and the meshing of the personalities of the different instruments can definitely serve to calm nerves and soothe the soul. Besides, what better genre to listen to than one that is the direct expression of the musician's feelings than jazz?

The Jazz Combo will be playing for President Krueger at his home as their last performance for this semester. The spring will bring a new opportunity for students and alumni to listen and enjoy; you can follow them on Facebook at Concordia University Irvine Performing Arts for upcoming shows.





# “Interstellar” a mind-opening sci-fi romp

DANIEL SHINE  
STAFF WRITER

Halfway through iconic director Christopher Nolan's thoughtful but ultimately fulfilling “Interstellar,” a spacecraft speeds into a wormhole, where four astronauts face a series of possible outcomes. Because the film could have gone many different ways, the end result will leave you in shock.

Four space travelers are led by a man named Cooper (Matthew McConaughey), a farmer on the lifeless, uninhabited Earth. Cooper cares for his 15-year-old son (Timothée Chalamet), his 10-year-old daughter Murphy (Mackenzie Foy) and his father-in-law (John Lithgow).

The movie starts out 100 years in the future when the Earth is being choked by dust and human life is becoming impossible to sustain. The only crop left is corn, and soon that, and humanity itself, will die. When Cooper and his daughter Murphy look for the source of an energy anomaly, they run into the new NASA space center. The center is led by aging scientist Dr. Brand (Michael Caine), who was once Cooper's instructor when he was flying for NASA in his prime.

Dr. Brand found a wormhole in our own galaxy that is located by Saturn. He previously sent 10 now-missing crafts to seek planets that humans can create new life on. Only three out of the 10 spacecrafts sent signals back with information about the new planets found.

Cooper and Dr. Brand's daughter Amelia (Anne Hathaway) are accompanied by two fellow astronauts (David Gyasi and Wes Bentley) to explore the wormhole for the source of the signals. They also bring robots to assist them in their travels, which end up playing a monumental role within the movie. There's a chance Cooper's team may return through the wormhole's time-space break, but there may be decades that pass by the time they do. Because of

that, the team is trying to complete the mission as fast as possible. Murphy, wanting to follow in her father's footsteps, grows up to become a scientist herself. Throughout her father's mission, she sent him Skype messages that he never received because of the delay in time.

A lot happens in “Interstellar,” to say the least. There are wormholes, amazing ideas/plans, quantum physics and quiet scenes filled with emotion that will keep you on the edge of your seat for all three hours. This film could be

compared to “Forbidden Planet,” “Silent Running,” “Gravity,” and especially “2001: A Space Odyssey.”

Nolan, writer and producer of “The Dark Knight” and “Inception,” is one of the best filmmakers around. Many of his films tend to make people expand their minds, so be prepared. It's a sci-fi, go-getter type film and if you have the time, then you should really consider this movie.

Last year's film “Gravity” did a lot of what

“Interstellar” aims to do, just in less time. “Interstellar” is a beautiful work of cinema, and when you leave the theater, you will be shocked by what you have seen.

“Interstellar” is a must-see in my opinion and one of the most futuristic sci-fi films I have ever seen. This film can be experienced in various formats and is shown at most local theaters. Continue your journey and see “Interstellar” in theaters now!



## Surprise twists on classic treats

### Mochilato combines Asian and Italian dessert heritages

RUBY MORALES  
STAFF WRITER

Mochilato is a small cafe located on Culver Drive, exactly 5.2 miles away from campus. Known for its unique twist on the common dessert called mochi, Mochilato takes the small mochi patties and fills them with luscious, Italian gelato.

The cafe is located in the same shopping square as Bruxie Gourmet Waffle Sandwiches and Daiso Japan. At first, it was a bit difficult to find because the store is hidden between two separate buildings. When I finally found Mochilato, it looked so trendy from the outside and the simple colors and clean decorations drew me in. The inside of the store did not disappoint; the dark colors mixed with the pastels of the mochi combined to create a relaxing atmosphere where many students gather to study and complete homework.

The cafe also plays classical music, which adds to the serene ambiance. When I approached the counter, I was greeted by a friendly cashier who informed me of the special trio Mochilato is known for: mochi filled with gelato (hence Mochilato), Beard Papa's cream puffs, and their shaved snow.

Mochi is a small, Japanese rice cake made from a rice paste, usually containing some type of filling, in this case gelato. The mochi is about two inches wide and very soft. The price for these tiny treats is \$2. I chose to keep it simple and try the vanilla. The actual mochi was extremely soft with just the right amount of flavor to balance out the sweet gelato filling.

All in all, the gelato-filled mochi is the pre-

fect treat for students gathering here to study.

Next, I ordered one cream puff. The original was priced at \$2.25 and was about three inches wide with prices varying for different flavors. The cream puff was a bit bland and nothing special, although the vanilla bean creme filling was decadent.

Finally, I ordered the shaved snow. Mochilato offers four sizes, with the smallest one being “junior,” which costs \$8.95. However, the bowl is big enough to serve at least three individuals. The shaved snow is made in a machine where the employee adds one bottle of pure dairy milk and the machine crystalizes the milk into tiny flakes resembling snow. The snow flakes are then piled high onto a bowl, and the customer is allowed to choose three toppings. I chose almonds, strawberries and mangos, which all blended nicely. Although the shaved snow was a bit pricey, you will receive large portions and wholesome ingredients, including fresh fruit.

The combination of mochi, cream puffs, and shaved snow is the trio that Mochilato is known for. In addition, many more items make up the menu. The cafe serves savory food such as chicken and rice, along with the more sophisticated macaron. Their flavors range from the exotic rose macaron and crème brûlée mochi, to the more common chocolate chip gelato. Along with various desserts, this cafe also serves brewed tea and coffee-based beverages.

Mochilato is a great place to either hang out with friends while satisfying a sweet tooth or relaxing in the serene environment and getting the last bit of homework or studying done.



### Cookies and ice cream: a delicious combo

JACK ROBISON  
STAFF WRITER

There are few things in life that offer us a nostalgic trip down memory lane simply through smell, or one small bite. However, the new Stax Cookie Bar, located in University Center, is striving to bring you back to the sweeter days of childhood. One step through the door and you're tossed into sensory overload as the scent of freshly-baked cookies lifts your feet off the ground, drawing you closer. As soon as you snap back into reality, Stax pulls you away with their broad selection of hand-made Fosselman's Ice Cream. This new take on the classic ice cream shop will make anyone feel like a kid again.

Stax Cookie Bar is an intriguing new style of ice cream shop, embracing the classic elements of the timeless “Mom and Pop” ice cream parlor while adding a few twists of their own. The vast selection of ice cream and cookies allows visitor to choose from over 4,000 ice cream sandwich combinations, so you can be adventurous or stay in your comfort zone. Whatever decision you make, Stax will not disappoint. Focusing on the ingredients in your food? Don't stress; you can indulge your sweet tooth. Stax cookies are baked daily using certified organic flour, paired

alongside Fosselman's hand-made ice cream. Even though this is a sweet treat, it can still be health-conscious. With vegan and gluten-free flour cookie options, this truly is a spot for all to enjoy.

Upon entering Stax, you are greeted by the helpful, energetic staff with a smile. Rick Boller, co-owner of Stax Cookie Bar, saw a need for something new in the area: a fresh (literally, straight out of the oven) outlook on cookies and ice cream, with the hopes that the students and residents of Irvine would be excited and curious. “The guests are excited to try something new that offers quality ingredients, and the ability to explore different flavor combinations keeps people coming back,” Boller said. With so many flavor options, it can be hard to narrow down your choices. With the holiday season approaching, a good seasonal option would be the pumpkin ice cream sandwiched between two red velvet with white chocolate cookies. If the seasonal items are not your preference, there are other options. Try a different popular combination, such as a chai tea cookie bottom, with sesame green tea cookie top, and black sesame ice cream to bring it all together, recommended by Boller. With seemingly endless options it will be helpful to take your time, ask for some samples and ask other customers what they like best. Again, it will be hard to go wrong with Stax, and if you are not feeling too adventurous, there is always the classic Vanilla on chocolate chip cookies.

When you are craving something sweet, Stax is absolutely a must-try. Even if an ice cream sandwich isn't your go-to, the menu offers other items such as the Smookie which consists of “warm gooey cookie dough topped with vanilla ice cream and hot fudge,” or go for the Affogato, which is “freshly brewed Espresso poured over any ice cream flavor.” On top of these two favorites, coffee, hot chocolates, milk shakes and ice cream floats are also served. Now that your mouth is watering, go give Stax a try. Located in University Center, next to Cha For Tea, you'll find Stax Cookie Bar, and once you try it, you'll keep coming back. For more information, catering, takeout orders and gift tins, visit [www.staxcookiebar.com](http://www.staxcookiebar.com).



## Battle of the Basses concert will boom

COURTNEY KURTZ  
STAFF WRITER

The next concert, “Battle of the Basses,” will be held this Sunday, Nov. 16, at 3 p.m. in the CU Center. This year the concert will feature the musical styling of the Wind Orchestra, Sinfonietta, Dr. Jeff Held, Music Director of both the Concordia Wind Orchestra and Sinfonietta, Dr. David Holben, Dr. Matthew Hare and Karissa Lystrup, senior. The concert will feature the tuba and double bass, instruments which are not normally played at concerts such as this one.

The Concordia website has promoted the event saying, “Don’t miss this epic ‘Battle of the Basses,’ featuring a tuba concerto and double bass concerto on the same program. Not to be outdone, the organist surely will pull out the 32’ bombarde stop! This concert will feature music for organ and brass choir, wind orchestra and string orchestra, and will combine both orchestras with organ on the Grainger works (as he intended!). Lively, lovely, powerful, playful... and plenty of deep bass!”

This “epic” concert is exciting students from all over Concordia, and it seems that the entire campus is eagerly awaiting Sunday’s concert.

Jennifer Gollwitzer, junior, said she

grew up playing the piano and has always been interested in attending musical concerts. She has gone to a few over the years but never one put on by Concordia students. “I am excited to see what our fellow students have to offer,” Gollwitzer said. Gollwitzer’s family has always heard great things about Concordia’s music program and they have decided to attend the concert. Gollwitzer’s mother played in her college orchestra, and hopes that this will be a way for her to be to relive her college years.

James Goodwin, junior, said that he is also planning to attend the concert this year and is especially interested in hearing the tuba.

Lauren Lake, senior, said that she hadn’t heard of the event until recently, but thought it would be interesting to attend. “I have never been to an orchestra concert before so it will be a new experience,” Lake said. She will be attending the event with her good friend Joshua DelaRosa, junior. DelaRosa has also never been to an event like this but he is excited to go out and try something new.

Make sure to come out and support Concordia music on Sunday. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for seniors, and free for all Concordia students and faculty. They can be purchased online now on the Concordia website.



## Serving as a lifestyle

DEAN HALL  
STAFF WRITER

On Nov. 8, the Local Missions group served in the monthly food distribution program, held at Christ Lutheran Church in Costa Mesa. This event seeks to reach out to the neighboring community’s less fortunate.

The Local Missions group has been serving at the monthly food distribution for the past few years. An entire truck full of produce was given away at this distribution, with an abundance of apples, pears, onions, potatoes, cabbages and more. Each family was able to receive a small shopping cart worth of food.

Others from the Concordia community also came out to help serve the less fortunate. Concordia’s nursing program brought craft supplies to the children and also taught them personal hygiene.

On top of the regular church volunteers from Christ Lutheran and the Local Missions group, members from Omicron Delta Kappa volunteered to help serve at the food distribution for their service project.

Kendra Sitton, junior Missions Coor-

dinator, has always loved serving others. “It’s been great to have a job that allows me to connect others with ways to serve,” Sitton said. “That’s really what I do: I serve as a connection between CUI students and places that could use our help.”

The Local Missions group believes that you don’t have to travel halfway around the world to spread the love of Jesus Christ to all nations. The group also frequently serves at a home for people living with mental illnesses by leading Bible studies. “There are needs in the community around us that we can fill on a daily basis,” Sitton said. “Serving isn’t just limited to summer trips; it’s a lifestyle.”

On top of the local missions the group serves, they will also be traveling to serve in New Orleans in the spring, and summer mission trips including Mexico, Bolivia and China.

Sitton said the missions groups find it essential to create sustainable, continued partnerships with the organizations they serve, “so that we can truly demonstrate Christ’s love as a lasting thing, not something that fades depending on our whims or convenience to us.”

## Smarty Marty’s sudoku

		7	8	5		2		
		5			3	7		
8	9				4		3	5
	3	9	5		6			1
4								6
6			7		8	4	9	
1	2		3				5	4
		4	1			3		
		3		8	9	6		

## Tacos, games and sumo wrestling for commuters

TAYLOR WELLS  
STAFF WRITER

Commuter Outreach, in partnership with the Outdoor Recreation Club, will host the first-ever Commuter Mixer during lunchtime on Tues., Nov. 18 in the Eagles Lounge. Complete with a taco cart, lawn games and even sumo suits, this event will be the largest Commuter Outreach has ever hosted.

“[With] this event, commuters will have an opportunity to engage in conversation with other commuter and resident students, while eating and participating in fun activities,” said Ariana Sadeghipour, sophomore LEAD Commuter Outreach Coordinator. Fumi Ashley Wada, sophomore LEAD Commuter Outreach Coordinator, explained that the mixer is designed to invite commuters “to feel more at home at Concordia.”

In addition to the tacos and snow cones, there will be raffles of gift cards, games like corn hole and spike ball, and sumo suits provided by Outdoor Rec.

“This will be the first time Outdoor Recreation and Commuter Outreach have partnered up for an event,” said sophomore Damiana Gumiran, LEAD Outdoor Recreation Coordinator. “We chose to partner up because both groups target different audiences. Commuter Outreach will draw in commuters and Outdoor Recreation will draw in the residents.”

Alexandra Lee, sophomore LEAD Outdoor Recreation Coordinator, said, “We are

partnering up now to try something new by reaching out to a greater dynamic of students.”

Noncommuter students are welcome to attend this event, but the tacos are reserved specifically for commuters. “This is a first of its kind and there are many more events like this to come in the future,” Wada said.

“Commuter Outreach had a taco day a few years back, and it was one of the most successful commuter outreach events. However, we are changing it and upgrading it,” Sadeghipour said. “We are taking what worked in the event—the tacos—and adding a fun, sociable aspect. We hope that by having games and raffle prizes, commuters will be even more interested in attending the event.”

This year, Commuter Outreach has hosted a breakfast, two lunches and a pizookie day. “We plan on doing our pizookie day again next semester because commuters loved it so much,” Wada said.

Sadeghipour anticipates 150 to 200 commuters will attend the mixer, out of the 800 commuters who make up one-third of the campus population. “This year we are working hard to really make Concordia feel like a second home,” Wada said.

The Commuter Mixer will take place on Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Eagles Lounge.

For more information on the mixer or other commuter programs, contact the Commuter Outreach coordinators in the CSLD.

