

THE Concordia Courier

Investigate. Inform. Ignite. Involve.

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Volume 7, Issue 9

Concordia University Irvine

Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Beachy Homecoming at Dana Point

SARINA GRANT
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

The "Life's a Beach" Homecoming dance, put on by LEAD Student Activities, will be held at the Dana Point Ocean Institute on Feb. 8 from 8-11 p.m. The event will include casino tables, a photo booth, a gourmet s'mores bar, desserts, drinks, raffle prizes, karaoke, and a DJ. Transportation from campus will be provided.

This location of this year's dance ties in with its theme. "The venue is right on the beach, so you can see the ocean from the dance floor," said Audrey Biesk, junior, LEAD Student Activities Coordinator. "Dana Point in general is such a beautiful area, and it's fairly well known. The location is convenient and close, and the actual institute is really amazing."

Leading up to the dance is a spirit week, giving students a chance to show off their school pride. Yesterday was 'Merica Monday, Today is Take Down TMC Tuesday, tomorrow is What Not To Wear Wednesday, followed by Twinning Thursday, and Aloha Friday. Show off your outfits by posting photos on Instagram with hashtag #CUIspiritweek. In regards to attire for the dance, the event is semi-formal. "It's a beachy theme, so people can choose to incorporate that into their outfits however they wish," Biesk said.

Those who have attended Homecoming in the past can expect to see a few changes. In order to cut costs and make tickets more affordable, dinner is no longer included. "Twenty-five dollars can be a lot for some college students," Biesk said. Another benefit of not having dinner is that there is no longer a cap on attendance. In previous years, tickets quickly sold out because of the 300 person limit. This year, without a cap, students won't have to worry about the dance selling out. Without the

need to leave time for dinner, the dance is now only three hours long.

"I wish they would have kept the dinner portion of the dance," said Sarah Barrick, junior. "I went the last two years and really liked having the event catered."

"I think it's pretty significant that homecoming is held in the spring," said Kathleen Ann Sagan, junior, LEAD Student Activities Coordinator. "It's a cool way to honor the graduating seniors."

Each year, students elect a Homecoming King and Queen, reserved only for seniors. Voting is taking place all this week, with the winners being announced on Friday in chapel.

"I'm really excited to see what this year's event brings," said Mariya Artis, junior. "It's been a blast when I've gone in the past, and I look forward to having a nice night with friends."

Tickets can be purchased today at lunch or all day tomorrow in the CSLD for \$20 per person.



Eagle skates to success Concordia's expansive electronic book database

DAETONA LAURENCE
SPORTS EDITOR

Alexa Finzi, junior, started ice skating when she was five years old and has continued honing her skills for 15 years. Finzi has dedicated so much time and effort to synchronized skating that she has successfully earned herself a spot on Team USA.

Finzi, who skates in both long and short senior synchronized skating programs, has competed in both the Cup of Berlin and the French Cup twice. Synchronized skating has not earned itself a place in the Olympics just yet. However, there are rumors that the sport might make its Olympic debut soon. Until then, Finzi and her team will focus on Nationals, which will be occurring on Feb. 27.

During season, Finzi's schedule consists of three main components: skating, sleeping, and going to school. Finzi practices 4-6 times a week with her team at East West Ice Palace in Artesia, CA, from 4:45-6:15 a.m. Although balancing her academic schedule and her skating career can be difficult, Finzi tries to stay grounded and set priorities. "With missing classes, it forces you to learn time management; it disciplines you," said Finzi. "It's definitely a struggle, but it's always worth it in the end."

Finzi emphasized how supportive her family was of her skating career. Finzi and her twin sister, Nicole, began their journeys as skaters together. The pair skated on the same team until high school, when Nicole decided to focus on school and her social life. However, Nicole continues to support her sister in everything she does. The two even Skype while Finzi is away for competitions.

Finzi not only has a supportive family off the ice but a support system on the ice as well. "I love my teammates. They're like my family, my sisters," said Finzi. She continuously emphasizes her love of skating. "Being on the ice relaxes me. It's like a stress release," said Finzi.

Both Finzi sisters have been diagnosed with Retinitis Pigmentosa. This disease causes rod cells in the eye to slowly start dying and impairs peripheral vision. "Being on a synch team, you really need to see the girls next to you," said Finzi. "So eventually I won't be able to compete." However, Finzi continues to be positive about her career regardless of her hardships.

Finzi will continue in her skating endeavors and strive to further her success. She will be competing on her team California Gold in the U.S. Synchronized Skating Nationals in Michigan from Feb. 27- Mar. 2.

CAITLYN DAVENPORT
STAFF WRITER

Last fall, Concordia began expanding its book database by introducing an electronic based system, giving students access to 112,000 electronic books.

Available through EBSCO, those interested in reading one of these electronic books have access through the library computers, as well as their own computers. The subscription to EBSCO grants students and faculty access to thousands of books electronically, in addition to what is available in the library.

To find the ebooks online, first visit the 'research tools' section of Concordia's library website. From there, click on Academic ebooks, which will bring up the the EBSCO ebook search engine.

The range of subject material is varied, providing everything from literature to non-fiction. A handy feature available when using the ebooks is the ability to create citations in different styles for use in bibliographies. The ebooks cannot be downloaded, and only 60 pages of a book can be printed at a time. Internet connection is required to access the books.

Unfortunately, not many students have taken advantage of this library feature yet. "We do point it out in our instruction sessions," said Ramez Mikhail, Information Services Librarian. "We show them the ebooks, and it tends to fascinate

people that we have this many books." The Library staff is continually informing students and faculty of the database through flyers and information sessions in the Library.

Dr. Susan Bachman, Assistant Dean of Arts and Sciences and Honors Program Director, had her Freshman Breakout INT 100 Honors students complete a research project using the ebooks. "I got started when I learned about our new ebooks at the faculty retreat from Carolina Barton, Director of Library Services. She told me about our new addition that included thousands of books," said Bachman. "I wanted to integrate this with my Honors students as a new project." Students were able to select any topic of preference but were required to complete the research using the non-fiction ebooks.

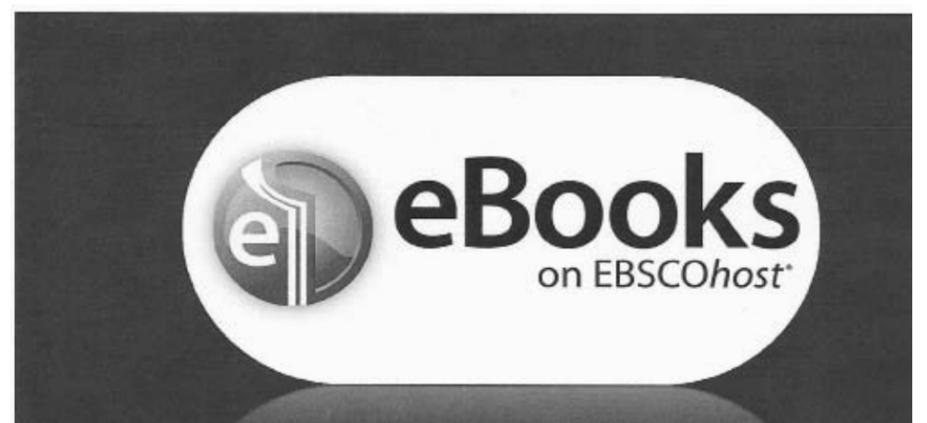
The opinion on ebooks, however, has been varied. Most of Bachman's students claimed using the ebooks was too difficult and that they preferred using paper books. "It is nice having access to all the books, but I didn't like that I couldn't print them. I preferred reading the book on my Kindle," said Kendall Davis, freshman. Other students, however, have enjoyed using the ebooks.

Although some professors like the ebooks, others prefer not to use it. "I'm old school; I'd rather use a hard copy," said Bob Rossow, Professor of Theology.

To get more information on the ebooks, stop by the library, or visit <http://www.cui.edu/library>.



Finzi and her team skating at a national competition



Editorial: *Who has it worse?*

ALICIA HARGER
LAYOUT EDITOR

The other day, I got in a silly argument with some guy friends about who has it worse, guys or girls. It wasn't important and mostly the girls complained about their periods, but it's a serious problem. Many men don't even realize the way women are marginalized and oppressed by society. So, if I had to do the argument again, here's what I might say.

Really, women have it easier? Tell me, have you ever changed your plans because you were afraid of being raped? Were you ever afraid of assault as you walked to your car at night? Women are forced to live on a "rape schedule" that limits their freedom and holds them in fear. Rape is never a woman's fault. It is the fault of the rapist. It doesn't matter how she dresses or how many drinks she had, no one is "asking for it." Our society shames rape victims and blames provocative clothing or risky behavior, but it is always the rapist's fault.

Really, women have it easier? Tell me, have you ever felt like your physical appearance was the most important aspect of yourself? Did you ever feel your looks were more important than your personality, interests, and beliefs? Women so often feel absolutely defined by their bodies and looks. From a young age, a girl is taught that pretty is the best thing that she can be, that all her other accomplishments are worthless unless she looks good. In society's eyes, a man can make up for being physically unattractive by being strong, athletic, smart, or rich. An ugly woman really has no chance.

Really, women have it easier? Tell me, have you ever been paid less for the same work? Do people assume you're somehow incompetent or too emotionally compromised to be a good employee?

Women get paid 77 cents for every dollar a man makes in the same job. When, as a test, identical resumes are sent out, one with a male name and one with a female name, the male resume gets many more replies. This is a complicated problem that has many causes, but the wage gap boils down to men having a higher working value in society's eyes than women.

Really, women have it easier? Tell me, have you ever been catcalled walking down the street? Has a complete stranger ever sexually objectified you on a whim? Did that stranger think he was being flattering? Because that's not. "Dayum girl" and a wolf whistle are not compliments, especially when they come, unsolicited, from strangers. Women are more often than men viewed as objects for sexual pleasure.

Really, women have it easier? Have you ever felt underrepresented in the policy-making decisions of a nation? If you made it there, have you ever felt ridiculed and under appreciated? Women, although making up slightly more than half of the population, are hugely outnumbered by men in politics. This statistic is in flux; more women were elected in this election than ever before, but it's not a solved problem. The women who do reach high levels of office, like Hillary Clinton, are often described as manly. This takes away the femininity of the woman making important political decisions and also implies that a "womanly" woman would not be able to serve the country as well.

Really women have it easier? Tell me, how many naked, scantily clad, or sexualized men did you see on TV today? How many internet pop ups featured male bodies in sexy positions? Women are portrayed as useable sex toys by the media; men typically aren't. Think about it. Name one actress in movies or on TV who isn't even a little bit attrac-

tive. If a female character is fat or ugly, it suddenly becomes an important plot point and a key aspect of her character. Think of Fat Amy in Pitch Perfect. Being fat was so much a part of her character that they had to put it in her name. Cartoon women, including ones who are designed to be role models for young girls, are often impossibly thin and incredibly proportioned. Jasmine, the Disney princess, is dressed in a very revealing and sexual manner, for example. The internet is also a terrible purveyor of female indignity. Media as a whole depicts women as sexual beings first, real people second.

Really, women have it easier? Tell me, who are your heroes and role models? How are they described? Batman—strong, Michael Jordan—skilled, Nelson Mandela—just. Angelina Jolie—hot, Maria Sherepova—hot, Michele Obama—hot. Male role models are admired for a variety of skills, abilities, and personality traits; female role models are mainly remembered for being pretty. This ties in the media's representation of women and the social imperative that imposes the need to be beautiful upon women. It's a cycle that cannot be broken unless we start valuing women for useful traits like those we admire in men.

Really, women have it easier? Tell me, have you ever felt dependent on someone else because you're physically weak? Have you ever needed help because your body just isn't that strong? This one is no one's fault, but being physically weak can keep women from enjoying complete autonomy and independence. Men might be tempted to use this as proof that they must work harder. This is wrong. Women have to struggle with feeling child-like, inadequate, and needy because of basic biology. Women have to work harder to earn as much freedom as a man is automatically given.

So tell me, who has it worse?

From British Eyes Only Colonial Education 101: Part 6, Health Care System

LAWRENCE OXBOROUGH
STAFF WRITER

Good evening class, and welcome back after our last more serious and sombre lecture. You'll be glad to know that this one will be a little bit sillier.

For the past week, I've gotten to know my bed very well, having not left my room in four days. The reason for this, before you go thinking I'm just pure idle, is that I've had the flu-type-buglet that's been going around (your sympathy will be much appreciated). The most frustrating thing about being sick, though, is not the loss of the sense of smell, the constant headache, or the lack of motivation to do anything. Instead, it is that I cannot go to the doctor to get it checked out and get any drugs I may need. You may ask, "Why?" and I will say to you this: it costs an arm and a leg to go to the doctor over here. Even with expensive health insurance, it has never cost me less than \$70 to say "hello" and check in with a doctor. This has often left me wondering, "What's the point in having health insurance at all?"

If you do the math, you may find that it could be cheaper to have no health insurance. If you only require one or two trips to the doctor a year, you may find that, even with the discounted price that insurance offers, having insurance will actually cost you *more* to stay healthy. For example, if your health insurance costs you \$2000 a year, and you go to the doctor twice—costing in total \$200—you've paid \$2,200 that year. However, if you didn't have health insurance, and you went to the doctor twice, it would cost you a bit more. Let's say \$600 for the two trips combined. Well, that's still saved you \$1,600.

Ok, so let's be honest; you don't know when you will need to go see the doctor. You may have a car accident and break your arm. You may have a heart attack because you didn't pay attention to my Christmas article about eating healthily. The point is, you never know what's around the corner, so you should have health insurance just in case. Otherwise you may end up having to take out a second mortgage just to have your arm wrapped in plaster. But here's what annoys me...

When you pay for insurance, you still have to pay to see the doctor. All the insurance offers is a discounted trip. Should you really have to pay \$70 to see the doctor when your insurance is receiving \$2000 for the year? Is the point of having insurance not to cover everything completely? Your car insurance, for example, doesn't ask you to dish out \$400 because some muppet behind you drove into your rear bumper. That's how it should be for health insurance also. Most of the time, if you find yourself at the doctor's, it's because something outside of your control caused you to be there.

For example, if you get a nasty, lethal disease, despite having lived a healthy lifestyle, here are your options (it would seem to me): 1. Have horrendously expensive health insurance that covers everything (even though you've paid so much you haven't actually saved anything). Go bankrupt. 2. Have health insurance. Pay what it doesn't cover. Go bankrupt. 3. Have health insurance. Pay what it doesn't cover. Go bankrupt. Die anyway. 4. Don't have health insurance. Pay everything. Go bankrupt. 5. Don't have health insurance. Pay everything. Go bankrupt. Die. 6. Don't have health insurance. Don't go to the doctor. Try to beat it in the confines of your living room (and probably die). Whatever happens, it would seem you either go bankrupt or you die. Or both.

I suggest you follow in the footsteps of the UK and Canada. Free healthcare for all! (Eh.)

Faculty Letter: *Adam Lee*

Teaching and Learning



One month of spring semester has already passed. Only 12 more weeks until summer vacation. Most people divide their years in this way – "work and vacation." This always seems a rather dour dichotomy. My years divide into "work and

travel," which in my life translates as "teaching and learning." Travel has become my education.

Traveling was never a time for night clubs and resting on the beach, but a time for forgotten museums, fireside stories, hostel-lobby debates, late-night journaling, and unfettered reading. Preparation for travel didn't involve guidebooks and hotel brochures, but novels, music downloads, art exhibitions, history books, and restaurant visits to inhale various aspects of the new cultures to be experienced. Travel was the richest milieu of education and the most liminal locale for learning.

Four summers ago Concordia students first invaded my travels, and I was initially skeptical about how that could distress my personal learning. I didn't want roles of instruction and leadership to threaten my protected periods of pure learning. I didn't want work to infringe on my travel.

I was foolish to limit God with my expectations of what He wanted me to learn on the road. Traveling with students has taught me even more than traveling alone. Together we've learned about the Kingdom of God being immanent in cultures, we've see the Great Commission in action through a myriad of mission strategies, and we've heard Christ being worshipped in a spectrum of styles and languages. God wants us to learn as a body, and Christian community is where I've experi-

enced this most powerfully. Learning together, whether in a classroom in Irvine, talking with Peace Corps volunteers on a train across Zambia, training Nepalese teachers in a Himalayan village, studying Psalms at a secret meeting in China, or selecting street boys to place in Kenyan boarding schools, is better than learning alone.

Learning together is one of best ways to teach, and perhaps the best way to lead.

God affirmed this for me again last October during the Around-the-World Semester's sojourn to India. In Calcutta, our students fanned out through the post-monsoon humidity to various ministry homes run by Mother Teresa's Sisters of Charity. Some students decided to teach disabled children at Daya Dan; some worked at Shanti Dan with abused women, and others at Prem Dan or Kalighat with the sick and dying. Before our first day of service, I asked Sister Mercy Maria where I should go to make sure the Concordia team leaders were evenly distributed. She looked up and responded with a twinkle of both love and mischief: "Go with your students to Kalighat, but don't go as a leader. Go as a learner."

Adam Lee
Assistant Professor of English

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Primary funding provided by
the Office of the Provost

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Publishing by Anchor Printing
anchorprintingoc.com

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Eagles soar into intramural season

AUSTIN BURKHART
STAFF WRITER

On Tues., Jan. 22, the intramural basketball season began with students ready to get on the court and play, setting the tone for a safe and exciting season.

Intramurals are the most participated-in activity on campus. All students can play and no prior experience is needed. These activities often attract students who played sports in high school but felt unable to play at a collegiate level.

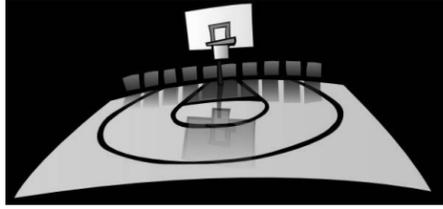
Because there were only two girls' teams that participated in last year's season, Intramural Coordinators Corey Kelso and Austin Derryberry, juniors, were predominantly focused on involving more female players this year. Kelso and Derryberry used "marketing techniques" to grab the students' attention and encourage more participation.

"We sent emails, set up posters, and had a basketball hoop outside the cafeteria during lunch," said Kelso and Derryberry. With five women's teams and 16 men's teams this season, both coordinators agree the turnout was far better than last year. However, both would like to see an even higher increase in girls' teams in the future.

"Some girls said it was too competitive, but those were some of the same girls who played intramural flag football," said ASCUI President, Elyssa Sullivan, senior. "I know some of the girls wanted a tutorial to go over the rules, so that might help."

Opening night, referees and players alike were excited to see what this season had in store. Third year intramural referee, Zach Oedewaldt, junior, spoke from experience. "I barely recognize half the players out there anymore, so it's great to see new competition on the court," said Oedewaldt. "It's not going to be like last year where one team dominated everyone."

Kelso and Derryberry encourage players to stay "level headed" towards other players and referees. "We're not professional referees, but I try to make it fair for both teams, and when I make a call, I stand by it," said Oedewaldt.



The players were especially excited to kick off the season with positive attitudes and strategic game plans. "This is my first year playing intramural basketball. Our team is more focused on playing for fun," said Sullivan. "I wasn't at the first game but heard the girls all played with a good attitude, and that's a great strength to have." Last season, Michael Annunziato, senior, and his team lost in the semifinals to the Scrubs, the team that went on to win the championship. "To get better this season, we found more giants and former high school and college players as well," said Annunziato. "It always helps to have a group of guys that have played competitively before."

Full-court games lasting 40 minutes are played in the gym from 9:30 p.m. to midnight Mon.-Wed. The playoffs will be formatted with a win or go home set-up featuring eight men's teams and possibly all five girls' teams.

Win or lose, intramurals are "a good way to spend your time," said Derryberry. "They help build the community and are a great outlet to relieve stress." The season will come to a close in the beginning of March, ending with a men's and a women's championship. "It is a great start to a new semester," said Kelso.

Come to the gym Mon.-Wed. starting at 9:30 to support fellow students and watch competitive basketball. For those who were unable to sign up for basketball but would like to play in a future intramural sport, be sure to keep your eyes open and mark your calendars with upcoming events. An indoor soccer season and possibly a dodge ball tournament will be occurring soon after intramural basketball ends.

Sticking to the men

JADE REED
STAFF WRITER

The men's lacrosse team started the season 1-1, defeating UCLA 9-6 in their first game on Jan. 26. This season they will take on top teams of their conference to get one step closer to their end goal of becoming national champions.

The team has been preparing long and hard for this season so that they can compete with the best teams in the nation. "We started practicing in the fall, every morning from 6:30-8:30 a.m., and then an hour of weightlifting after practice," said Destin Seguin, junior captain. Although the team's practice schedule is strenuous, it is bringing them closer to achieving greatness.

Coach Will McMinn has high hopes for his team this season. "I want my team to be better at the end of the season, and to be able to play with the best, while having a blast playing and glorifying God in the process." Many of the men on the team not only love Coach McMinn as a coach but also respect his coaching style. "He gives us a lot of freedom on the field and tells us to just play and good things will happen," said Scott Jackson, junior captain.

Many players agree that Coach McMinn's coaching technique is better than other coaches

they have had in the past. "He is more comfortable and does not pressure us as much," said Kelly McMinn, senior.

"He is not the kind of coach that thinks winning is everything; instead he wants us to play well and play together." With one win under their belt, the team is reassured that hard work does pay off. "This year is our year to show that we belong," said Kelly McMinn.

Coach McMinn shared that strong leadership, good encouragement skills, and fewer negative influences will help maintain the success of his team. Last Friday, the lacrosse team took on Chapman University but fell by a score of 15-6. Chapman was ranked #1 last season, so the loss is considered a learning experience. Playing against ranked teams will help expose the team's weaknesses that need to be fixed. "Last year was the coming out year, and this year is the showing out year," said Coach McMinn.

If this team could be described in three words, they would be "gritty, exciting, and fast," said Seguin. These three words illustrate what the remainder of season will look like as the team works towards winning Nationals. Their next game is Sat., Feb. 9, at 1 p.m. against St. Mary's College at Sage Hill High School in Newport Beach.

Adjustments for core peer tutoring?

MALAIKA BIGIRUMWAMI
STAFF WRITER

The Core Peer Tutoring program is making new changes to emphasize the free tutoring available for students in the Core curriculum.

Despite Core Peer Tutoring being available for multiple semesters, it still isn't being utilized enough. "We found through last semester that core peer tutoring sessions weren't being as efficient as they could," said Dr. Daniel van Voorhis, Co-Director of the Core Curriculum. "Peer tutors were not being used to their extent."

With a new semester under way, van Voorhis is making the changes necessary to resolve the issue. "If we need to hire more tutors and use much more money into the program, that will be done," van Voorhis said.

Core curriculum professors are also doing whatever they can to assist student success in their classes. Dr. Melinda Schulteis, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Head Professor of Mathematics Core Peer Tutoring, has already seen much improvement from her students going to tutoring sessions. "We've implemented core small group tutoring with up to at most three people," Schulteis said. "More than half of the students who got A's last semester went to core peer tutoring."

Professors aren't the only ones who see the benefit in Core Peer Tutoring. Beth Lonardelli, sophomore, praises the core peer tutoring for the help it gave her after going in for math help. "It was very beneficial and did nothing but boost my grade," Lonardelli said.

Despite the advantages for students, some subjects still have not had much attendance. "Many students don't go to the sessions because it affects their schedule, but if you need the help, take advantage of it," said Lonardelli.

Van Voorhis wants the Core Curriculum to be "intellectually challenging but very doable," and hopes to raise attendance by whatever means possible.

With the professors doing as much as they can to have core tutoring emphasized, it is ultimately up to the students to actually go to the meetings. Kristina Deusch, junior English Core Peer Tutor, acknowledged the shortage of students at her tutoring sessions. "It's in the professors hands, but it's the student's decision," said Deusch.

"Students who go to tutoring won't regret it," added Schulteis.

For more details on core peer tutoring sessions, visit <http://www.cui.edu/academicprograms/Undergraduate/Core-Tutoring-Center> or contact your Core curriculum professor.

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Come to Concordia University Irvine's first RADD event!

Thursday, February 7th

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Student Union Patio

Come be a part of the Concordia University Irvine RADD Crew! Students will promote this Designated Driver Reward Program by learning how to prevent impaired driving and keep their friends and fellow Eagles safe!

We want students to know that you can go out with your friends, have a great time, and still get home safely when you are responsible and plan ahead.

For more information on the RADD program, visit www.collegeisradd.org

If you are interested in getting involved on campus, please contact Margaret Gamboa, Health Promotion Specialist at the Wellness Center at margaret.gamboa@cui.edu or (949) 214-3108.

Super Bowl XLVII: Ray's swan song

BEN DULL
STAFF WRITER

A power outage in the third quarter followed by a furious comeback by the San Francisco 49ers almost left Ray Lewis and the Baltimore Ravens heartbroken in New Orleans, but the purple and black held on for a 34-31 victory.

Joe Flacco was named Super Bowl MVP. Flacco lived up to his own hype, completing 22 of 33 pass attempts for 287 yards and three touchdowns, all within the first half. Flacco took plenty of grief for his comments before the season, anointing himself as an elite NFL quarterback, but he clearly picked the right time to live up to those expectations.

The Ravens got plenty of help from wide receivers Anquan Boldin and Jacoby Jones. Boldin overpowered the Niners' defensive backs on his way to six catches for 104 yards and one touchdown. Jones only caught one pass on Sunday, but he made it count, beating defenders down the field for a 56 yard touchdown in the first half. Jones also returned the opening kickoff in the second half for a 109 yard touchdown.

After Jones' kick return, the Ravens led 28-6. Just several plays later, nearly half of the lights in the New Orleans Superdome went out. The power outage lasted nearly 40 minutes. Although the Niners were forced to punt after the lights came back on, San Francisco went on to score 23 of the next 26 points. Niners quarterback Colin Kaepernick led the charge. Michael Crabtree caught a Kaepernick pass for the first Niners' touchdown of the half. Frank Gore scored a second touchdown about two minutes later. After the teams traded field goals, Kaepernick ran in for a score from 15 yards out, but the Niners went for two points on the conversion and failed to convert. Flacco and the Ravens responded with a five-minute drive ending with a Justin Tucker field goal. The Niners had one last chance, but Kaepernick's pass to Michael Crabtree on fourth and goal from inside the 10 yard line fell incomplete.

Who knows what would have happened if the power had not gone out, but regardless, we were treated to a game for the ages. Ray Lewis will leave the NFL on top with a Super Bowl ring, but plenty of speculation will follow Lewis in the near future. According to reports, Lewis was on a list of athletes who allegedly used deer antler spray, which contains a banned substance. All questions aside, the Ravens outplayed the 49ers when it mattered, and head coach John Harbaugh of the Ravens defeated his younger brother Jim, head coach of the 49ers.

The game and power outage provided plenty of entertainment for all fans, but the vocal performances were outstanding in their own way. Jennifer Hudson and 26 children from Sandy Hook Elementary School of Newtown, CT, delivered a touching performance of "America the Beautiful" before kickoff. Alicia Keys sang our National Anthem, and Beyonce did some singing and lots of dancing at halftime. While the Super Bowl ads have not been up to par in the last few years, some commercials were worth the hype. In case you missed any of them, here are some commercial highlights.

Movie fans have plenty of flicks to look forward to, including "World War Z" starring Brad Pitt, "Fast and Furious 6", "Star Trek into Darkness", and "Ironman 3". E-Trade, Samsung, Audi, and Best Buy ads gave us some laughs, featuring a talking baby, Seth Rogen, a high school prom, and Amy Poehler, respectively. GoDaddy made plenty of families uncomfortable once again with their commercial, featuring almost exclusively a close up of some kissing between model Bar Refaeli and new Internet superstar, GoDaddy Walter. On a serious note, the ads from Jeep and Dodge were both very heartfelt and inspirational, paying tribute to some of our nation's true heroes—our troops and farmers.

Very few experts would have picked the Ravens and 49ers to represent their respective conferences in the Super Bowl, and many did not expect such an exciting game. Super Bowl XLVII did not disappoint, and it reminded us once again why so many Americans love the NFL and the game of football.



Staying afloat

CARLY BISHOP
STAFF WRITER

The women's water polo team began the season with a rough start at the UCSB Winter Invite in Santa Barbara. However, despite the 2-6 start, the team remains positive.

New head coach John Wright was not upset about the losses. "I was pleased; I thought we did really well," said Wright. "Clearly there are some things we need to get better at, but that's fine." The team agreed with their coach. Jamie Clark, senior, thought the games went well considering the teams they faced. "We kept up with a lot of the Division 1 teams that we played," said Clark.

The team began the season with 24 players but is now left with 11. Although many players have dropped, the remainder of the team has maintained a very strong bond. Karen Gurske, freshman, feels the Lady Eagles have become an even more dedicated group. The small number creates a struggle but does not stop the progress of the team.

A collective goal for this year's team is to stay together through adversity and to hold each other accountable. "We are so small, we can't take our anger out on each other," said Clarke. Coach Wright also believes a huge goal for this season is to improve and get better as a unit.

Significant challenges lie ahead for the Eagles,

including a tough 31-game schedule. The team will face off against many big opponents such as USC, Azusa Pacific, and Santa Clara. However, the most anticipated game among coaches and players is against rival Cal Baptist.

To prepare for these games, Wright has the team scrimmage against Concordia's men's water polo team and the boy's water polo team from Irvine High School. Along with the scrimmages, they prepare different schemes offensively and defensively for each opponent they face. "We never know what to expect at practices," said Gurske.

Former water polo player Samantha Bodle, junior, is eager to see the success this season's team will bring. She knows how much work they have to put in to achieve the goals they set this year. Bodle encourages more people to come out and show support because "the atmosphere changes with a crowd."

The Eagles will have a long stretch of away games before returning to their home pool. Their next games are against the University of Redlands at the La Verne Mini Invite on Feb. 9 in La Verne, CA, at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The team's next home game will be against Iona College at Irvine High School on March 14, so mark your calendars to support your Lady Eagles!



Not easily replaced

CAMESHA PATTON
STAFF WRITER

Women's volleyball head coach Dan Fisher has completed his last season with Concordia. As of Jan. 16, Fisher has been announced as the new head women's volleyball coach at the University of Pittsburgh.

The last two seasons for the women's volleyball program have been the most successful seasons in the program's history. Under Fisher, the Eagles dominated with an outstanding record of 38-0 in conference, 75-2 overall. Fisher has two GSAC Championship visits under his belt and one championship title. Fisher not only has the coaching experience but the playing experience needed to be the successful coach that he is today. Before becoming the top assistant coach at the University of Pacific, Fisher competed for nearly 10 years at high division levels.

"We wish Dan Fisher the best at the University of Pittsburgh," said Greg Dinneen, Associate Athletic Director. "Dan and his staff provided the program with two unforgettable seasons with one NAIA Championship and one NAIA runner-up finish with Christian values as the base of his program." Fisher's contribution has left an undeniable impression on Concordia's athletic program by displaying a deep respect for the game, the staff, the players, and the officials. "God has truly blessed me through my relationship with Dan," said Trevor Johnson, Assistant Coach. "Dan truly cared about his players giving their best in everything they

did."

Although Fisher will be greatly missed by faculty, staff, and students, the Lady Eagles will miss him the most. "Coach Fisher cared about the 'whole' person. We did not just learn about volleyball, but we learned about life and having faith. We learned how to be the best person outside of the gym," said NAIA All-American Brooke Marino, senior. Fisher has successfully made a positive impact on the team during his two seasons and has helped change the lives of many. "The new coach is going to have some pretty tough shoes to fill," said Mackenzie Beveridge, junior. "I can honestly say that Dan Fisher has changed my life. He not only tried to develop us as players, but also as better people."

Fisher expressed to Eagle News, on the athletic website, how grateful he is to have been a part of the Concordia family for the last two years. He has been "extremely blessed to work with a great coaching staff, school, and administrative support team." Fisher will go on to coach and spread his faith and integrity at the University of Pittsburgh and will always be remembered for his unselfish coaching style and confidence in his players and coaching staff.

The Athletic Department has begun the hiring process and hopes to have the new coach in place by April so that he or she is able to work with the returning players before the 24-week offseason ends. For more information on the progress of the search for Concordia's ninth women's volleyball coach, check www.cuieagles.com.

SportsLine



Kyle Borcharding

NBA Mid-Season Report: The All-Star Game

Super Bowl Sunday is now behind us, and before Mel Kiper Jr. and his NFL draft 2013 analysis wastes valuable minutes of Sportscenter, it's time to look ahead to bigger and better things: the NBA! This article will be the first in a series of three, with another article on each conference and the teams that will be title contenders down the stretch.

The lineups for the all-star teams have now been selected from a combination of fan voting and coach's selections. The fans' selections were quite predictable. The Eastern starting lineup is relatively small, with Kevin Garnett as the biggest of the five. Likely, nine-time all-star LeBron James will play power forward, leaving Carmelo Anthony on the wing with Dwayne Wade. Celtics point guard, Rajon Rondo, won the fan vote but will not be participating due to his recent ACL tear, which will keep him off the court until next season. Kyrie Irving is the most likely replacement in the starting lineup. The Western Conference starters are even more predictable: Chris Paul, Kobe Bryant, Kevin Durant, Blake Griffin, and Dwight Howard, all of whom started in last season's all-star game.

The bench selections for each team are perhaps more noteworthy for each side, because these players are not selected based on popularity with the NBA fans. Five players in the Eastern conference were first-time selections. Irving, in just his second season as a pro, has been tremendous in Cleveland and has become the face of the franchise very quickly. Paul George is also a first-time all-star, earning his trip to the game with incredible leadership in Indiana after Danny Granger had to sit out most of the season. 76ers point guard, Jrue Holiday, will also play on all-star weekend for the first time this year. His campaign this season has been impressive, jumping in production not only from 13.5 to 19.4 points per game between last year and this year, but also from 4.5 to 8.9 in assists.

The Western Conference will see only one newcomer to the all-star game. James Harden, the Rockets' shooting guard, has caught the attention of many since playing for the USA Olympic team in 2012. Since then, he has been traded from Oklahoma City to Houston, where he has taken over the franchise and become the star of the Rockets. While his shooting percentage has dropped from last year, he is now among the league's leading scorers at 26 points per game thus far. Spurs power forward, Tim Duncan, will make his 14th all-star appearance as he continues to surprise those who doubt him because of his age. Still one of the league's best big men, Duncan has led San Antonio to yet another successful season that may have a playoff run in its future.

These few notables have played exceptionally well thus far in the season and will make for an exciting all-star game. We will, of course, await the announcement of the 3-point and slam dunk contest participants eagerly, only hoping Paul George's show-stopping TRON dunk will not be spurned so hastily this year.

Concordia Choir fundraises for trip

JESSICA ISRAEL
STAFF WRITER

This February, the Concordia Choir is planning multiple fundraising events to assist in their efforts to pay for their Spring Tour in the Northwest. They are planning to visit six different Lutheran churches in the Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, areas. Departing on Feb. 23, they will be traveling on a week-long tour of concerts. There are plans in the making for the choir to work with Chick-fil-A for a fundraising night. The two hope to come together to donate to the Spring Tour fund.

The Concordia Choir has been working on gathering funds since last year. "During the Christmas concerts we sold baked goods that the Concordia Choir members brought. This ended up being a great success, and many in the audience enjoyed our baked goods," said junior Whitney Leehey, Vice President of Concordia Choir. Raising enough money for the trip is in the students' control because it is a part of their responsibility as members of the choir. The music department will pick up more general items like bus and ground transportation, while the students will be in charge of paying for their own airfare and extra spending money.

The Spring Tour is mandatory for Concordia Choir members. Each student needs around \$300 for the trip. "It definitely would require some of the members to maybe ask for some kind of financial aid from the university. So we are really hoping to

raise enough funds for those who need it," said junior Gretchen Sheetz, President of the Concordia Choir.

Members of the Concordia Choir are feeling confident with their preparation. The Choir has been rehearsing many songs to be used on the tour such as "Ain't No Grave", "Thou Shalt Know Him", "Children of the Heavenly Father", and more. The Choir performed a couple weeks ago at Irvine Presbyterian Church. "We practice three times a week for 90 minutes.... With a combination of practice three days a week and our performances, we should be feeling good," said William DeMuri, freshman.

In addition to performing concerts on the tour, the Concordia Choir does work with prospective students in the towns they visit. "One of the ways that we reach out as a music department and as a university is to send some of our best students out to represent us, and we perform at churches and schools to let people know about Concordia and to share our gift of music and music ministry with them," said Dr. Michael Busch, Director of Choral Activities. "Frequently when we go out on tours, we also visit with prospective students or sometimes win new students to our university by having them meet our students through the concerts." Busch has prepared a precise daily schedule for the weeklong trip to keep the members focused on their work.

The Choir will preform a home concert in the CU Center on March 8 at 7:30 p.m.

"A Night of Valentines"

BREANNA LAFFERMAN
STAFF WRITER

The men's chorus and women's ensemble will once again sing songs of love at this year's "A Night of Valentines" concert on Sat., Feb. 16, in the CU Center.

Attendees can look forward to both of these choirs, multiple solos, and even a barbershop quartet, performing in the romantically decorated venue. Along with the normal seating, there will also be bistro tables with candlelight available for attendees to enjoy. "We want to have a dinner theater atmosphere for the evening," said Dr. Marin Jacobson, Associate Director of Choral Activities, who spearheaded the love-themed event.

Previously, the Valentine's concert has been held in the Good Shepherd Chapel and had multiple performances. "In previous years, we packed Good Shepherd out for both performances," said Jeffrey Pullins, senior, who will be singing second tenor with the men's chorus. "This year, there's only one performance. The [CU Center] is bigger, but we still are trying to keep it just as intimate and low-key."

Although the song choices are varied in genre, attendees can expect the theme of love to be prevalent throughout the night. Songs on the set list include "The Light in the Piazza" by Adam Guettel, "Lucky" by Jason Mraz, and "L.O.V.E." by Nat King Cole. "One of my favorites that we'll be performing is 'Oh Mistress Mine,'" said Pullins. "Singing it has

a nostalgic feel. It has a simple melody, but the harmonies and the piano accompaniment are pretty." Attendees are invited to emotionally connect with the music; while some of the music is more serious, some songs are more playful and even humorous. Laughter is welcomed and reactions from the audience are encouraged.

The choirs began practicing at the beginning of spring semester twice a week, with men's and women's choirs practicing separately. "The songs are new for the students performing," said Dr. Jacobson. "It's all about selecting pieces that are right for the group and allowing enough time for everyone to prepare." Although practices have been challenging due to time conflicts with the recently performed "Footloose" practices, the choirs have overcome this obstacle to really focus on the upcoming performance.

One of the main attractions of this event is the fact that students can see their peers on stage and see all their hard work and dedication come to fruition. "You always get a good choral performance, good solo work, and get to see your friends having fun while performing," said Pullins.

Whether you have a sweetheart or go with a friend, this event is one not worth missing. Enjoy the transformed CU Center, talented performers, and even Valentine's Day-themed treats to top off the saccharine evening. Tickets are free to students, faculty, and staff, and \$10 for general admission. For more information and to buy tickets, visit cui.edu/music.

Ringling in the New Year

HALEY C. JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

The 21st Annual Handbell Invitational Concert Series will be held in the CU Center for Worship and Performing Arts this Sat., Feb. 9, at 4:30 p.m. Many local schools and churches will be in attendance, including Mater Dei High School of Santa Ana; St. Marks Orthodox Church of Irvine; The Masters College; and Will C. Wood High School of Vacaville.

Thirty-five students from Concordia will be performing from all three handbell ensembles: Concert Handbells, Spirit Bells and Chapel Bells. "We are a really tight knit group," said Esther Parkhurst, sophomore member of Concert Handbells. "A lot of people do not know what handbells are, and they are surprised by how much energy the performers give off."

One song that will be performed by the Concert Handbells will be 'Polka Fest.' Stefanie Hinrichs and Colene Lippman are both seniors in the Concert Handbells ensemble. "Polkafest resembles the polka dance. It's lively and makes you want to dance," said Hinrichs. Lippman's favorite part of performing is sharing the music that they worked so hard on. "We are all a handbell family," said Lippman.

The second song that the Concert Handbells

will be performing is 'Cantabile and Scherzando.' "Cantabile and Scherzando starts out slow and sweet, and then there is a burst of energy as it gets really fast. Then it ends just like the beginning," said Hinrichs. Other music that will be played includes church hymns, classical music, and music from movies.

Spirit Bells will be performing "This is My Father's World" and "The River." "I like performing 'This is My Father's World' because it's one of my favorite hymns, and the handbell arrangement is simply beautiful," said Sam Root, sophomore member of Spirit Bells, "With the use of different techniques, like mallets and chimes, it helps us to reflect and shows us how awesome our God is."

Dr. Herbert Geisler, Chair of the Music Department and Director of Music Education, will direct the Mass Choir at the end of the concert. He has been the director of the multi-ensemble handbell program since 1988. "Each ensemble plays two pieces of their choice," said Geisler. At the end, all the ensembles come together to perform 'Soon and Very Soon.'

"Everyone brings something different to the table, and you are able to learn from other groups," said Root.

To reserve tickets to this event, please contact the campus box office or visit cui.edu/thearts.

Artist Spotlight: Michael Miller

Do a double-take to see the woodwind doubler

Michael Miller is a junior at Concordia University and a clarinet performance major. As seen in the title, he plays other instruments as well. Alongside his clarinet studies with Dr. Margaret Thornhill, he studies the alto saxophone under Professor Jay Mason and the flute under Dr. Julie Long. He is also dabbling in the bassoon and piccolo in his woodwind techniques class, hoping to one day add them to his list of instrumental abilities.

Michael has many aspirations for his life. Among the normal kind like getting married and starting a family, he is hoping to dazzle the cinematic world as a movie/television studio artist. Both his saxophone and flute teachers currently work in this field, and it has fascinated and awed him for years.

Michael believes studio work is the peak of instrumental performance. As a studio musician, he would have to show up with whatever instrument(s) he was called in to play and completely sight-read the music perfectly. Of course even the best musicians in the world are human, and thus make mistakes. Also, ensemble work in the studio is a lot different than in a normal orchestra or band. Because of these issues, repetition is needed, but this does not take away from the fact that studio musicians still need to be able to sight-read extremely accurately on command.

Michael is currently a busy bee on this campus and has been during his almost three years at Concordia. He is working on his third year in the Concordia Wind Orchestra, Concert Handbells,

Concordia Choir, Clarinet Quartet, and Clarinet lessons. He has taken a year and a half of voice lessons and is currently working on his first year of saxophone lessons and second year in the Sinfonietta and flute ensemble (being in flute ensemble since its inception). He has enjoyed classes such as music theory, aural skills, music history, music cultures, brass techniques, percussion techniques, woodwind techniques, music teaching, and instrumental methods.

Michael not only studies music, but he is also lucky enough to be working in the music industry. He works a few days a week in the handbell office with Carmen Aleman, a fellow clarinetist and handbell player, having a blast working for both Professor Nancy Jessup and Dr. Herbert Geisler. He also works as the woodwind instructor at his alma mater, Lutheran High School of Orange, where he teaches woodwind sectionals whenever needed. One of his most exciting jobs, though, is his work in the pit orchestra at Lutheran High. Having performed in shows such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Oklahoma*, he absolutely loves putting his woodwind doubling into action!

Michael definitely loves what he does, and even when it gets absolutely crazy, he would never change his major! After a successful junior recital with fellow musician Ben Hunter, Michael is even more revved up to praise God in any way he can, especially through music, "making a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!" Psalm 95:1.



Michael Miller and other woodwind players show their love for the music.

Concordia let loose with Footloose

ALEX MIRANDA
STAFF WRITER

The Concordia theatre captivated audiences recently with its rendition of "Footloose". The five shows, performed at University High School, turned out overwhelming support and capacity crowds.

The production was directed by Professor Lori Siekmann, choreographed by C. Tyson Garner, and musically directed by Rob Blaney. The leading role of Ren McCormick was played by Wesley Barnes, sophomore, accompanied by Melissa Cheffers, senior, playing Ariel Moore.

"Wesley Barnes was a breath of fresh air and captivated the entire audience with his amazing performance," said Alexis Farrar, sophomore. In his first lead role, Barnes said he found the competition to be stressful beyond means. However, he later stated that when he received the role, he was ecstatic and called his mom immediately.

"From watching it was easy to see that a lot of hard work and dedication went into rehearsals and preparation for the show," said Amanda Harris, sophomore, after watching the show. "The actors on stage immersed themselves in the play, and a genuine product was the result."

Barnes gave a behind the scenes glimpse at how

the chemistry developed with the cast. "I was already friends with a lot of them, and they were really supportive and excited to get started on Footloose." However, prior to its debut, Barnes said that the cast saw "the rehearsal process as rough, but it all came together with that first run through."

Professor of Theatre Jeff Fazakerley, Assistant Director, described Concordia's enactment of "Footloose" on par with some of his most exciting productions to date.

"The performance made itself relatable to not only its original intended audience but also to a contemporary 21st century audience as well," said Harris, who was thrilled by the play and definitely glad she had the opportunity to see it. The classic screenplay first debuted in 1984 and stunned with a box office gross of over \$80 million in the US alone. The original movie was written by Dean Pitchford and directed by Herbert Ross.

The Concordia University Studio Theatre's production of "Footloose" is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. By entering this production, Concordia's Theatre program is able to promote itself amongst other universities and colleges across the nation.

Concordia will next present "I Never Saw Another Butterfly" by Celeste Raspanti from March 15-24 in the Black Box Theatre.

War Horse 'gallops' into Orange-County

ALEXANDRA CASTELLANOS
STAFF WRITER

The National Theatre of Great Britain brought the five-time Tony Award winning production of War Horse, which is currently on its North American Tour, to Orange-County's Segerstrom Center for the Arts. The production of War Horse is based on the novel by author Michael Morpurgo and adapted by British Tony Award winner, playwright, and writer, Nick Stafford.

War Horse is about a 15-year-old boy named Albert who sets out to rescue Joey, his horse, after he has been sold to the English cavalry during the First World War. "I thought the overall storyline was fantastic, and I really, really enjoyed how moving the ending was!" said Brittany Farmer, junior at Biola University.

War Horse, a two hour and 37 minute show, gave its last performance in Costa Mesa this past Sun., Feb. 3. Carol Light and her son Jackson, residents of Newport Beach who are Segerstrom regulars, were mostly looking forward to seeing the production because it wasn't a musical but a drama. "A few of my friends have seen it and have said that the horse is cool looking," said Jackson Light.

The men responsible for the success of War Horse are under the direction of Nicholas Hytner and Nick Starr. According to the Segerstrom website, which describes War Horse as a "powerfully

moving and imaginative drama filled with stirring music and songs, [it] is a show of phenomenal inventiveness that is currently playing to packed houses in London and New York. At its heart are astonishing life-sized puppets, created by South Africa's Handspring Puppet Company, that bring to life breathing, galloping, charging horses strong enough for men to ride."

Artistic Director Adrian Kolher and Executive Producer Basil Jones of Cape Town, South Africa, founded the Handspring Puppet Company in 1981. The company's work has been formally introduced in more than 30 countries around the world and has been involved in the creation of over 16 productions.

"I thought that the play was really artistic, and the use of puppetry was very unique. The part that stood out the most to me was when the horse grew up," said Kendra Corman, junior at Biola University. "That part felt honest. The horse was genuinely the star of the show."

Time magazine has given it a rave review as "an unforgettable theater experience." The production of War Horse will continue to run in 14 other U.S. states and will move on to run in the UK, Ireland, and Berlin during 2014 as well. For more information on future events at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, visit the center's website at <http://www.scfta.org/home/noflash.aspx>.



Students noodle their way around the world

KRISTINA KRUG
STAFF WRITER

On Thurs., Jan. 24, the International Student Services and Global Citizens Club hosted International Noodle Night in the Rho Programming Center. International Noodle Night was a free event for students to try different noodles from around the world and to get to meet some of the international exchange students. "I want international students here at Concordia University to feel right at home and open their minds and be able to make new friends," said Fei Gao, senior Global Citizens Club President.

There were six countries that were represented. Germany was represented by a traditional dish. China featured a Zhajiangmian dish, consisting of fried sauce noodles. Macaroni and cheese was the dish for the United States, while Japan was represented with Yakisoba, which included fried noodles and sauce. To represent Korea, there was Japchae, a noodle dish stir fried in sesame oil. Lastly, there was a Santa Fe chicken pasta dish, which is a speciality in Italy.

"My favorite dishes were the Japanese Yakisoba dish and the macaroni and cheese dish representing the United States," said Anna Kawashima, sophomore transfer student from Japan. "I came for the free food and wanted to see noodles from Japan."

Ania Washington, freshman, decided to come after seeing people setting up for the event. "It looked like fun, and I could meet new people," Washington said. If the International Student Services and Global Citizens Club had another international food night, "I would like to see meats from different cultures," said Washington. "My favorite dish was the noodles from Korea."

Min Kim, senior Global Citizens Club Vice President, has been involved in the club since Fall 2012. Kim is an exchange student from Hannam University in Daejeon, South Korea. "I wanted to get involved. I learned how important it is to advertise and promote the events we have," said Kim.

There were posters up advertising the event in hopes of drawing more students. International Noodle night was just one of a few opportunities for students to meet other students and to get to know the international exchange students.

"We try and have one event each month," said Gao. The next event will be a trip to Global Towns to visit Chinatown, Olvera Street, and Little Tokyo on Feb. 9. On March 14, there will be a movie night on campus, and on April 10, the international students will have the opportunity to share their stories.

To learn more about the International Student Services and Global Citizens Club, visit the Office of Global Programs in Admin 120, or visit www.cui.edu/globalprograms.

Spy vs. Reporter

EMILY GESKE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

On Tues., Jan. 29, the Richard Nixon Library and Museum hosted a Washington-style press conference, featuring two former higher-ups in the CIA, for the purpose of discussing what the agency has been doing to ensure the country's safety while aiming for peace.

Before the conference began, all the participants were escorted on guided tours throughout the museum and the grounds, with Nixon's birthplace and Presidential helicopter being among the notable displays. The museum contains plenty of information on Nixon's personal and political life, but it also has replicas of rooms in the White House and Nixon's private home. Immediately following the tour and a brief introduction by the President of the Richard Nixon Foundation, the forum commenced. The two speakers were Andrew Liepman and Charles Allen, the first a former Principal Deputy Director at the National Counterterrorism Center, the latter a former Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis. Both spoke about not only their own extensive experiences, but also how the agency has evolved in the wake of the 9-11 terrorist attacks.

Allen started out by addressing a common misconception: "We're not James Bonds, but we certainly do some astonishing things," he said. One of these "astonishing" accomplishments is how intelligence agencies, both foreign and domestic, have improved communication amongst one another in terms of sharing useful information and collaborating to halt terrorist plots. Al-Qaeda exploited this disconnect in 2001, but immediately after, personnel worked endlessly to rectify the problem. "The holidays meant nothing because we were trying to

keep the country safe," said Allen, speaking about life following Sept. 11. All the hard work has paid off, because there has not been a successful attack on US soil since those on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Besides preventing terrorist attacks, the agency is perpetually trying to improve technological security, attempting to stay a step or two ahead of the enemy. Some of the bigger government agencies, such as the CIA, FBI, and NSA, are collectively working to build a "community cloud" (think iCloud) that will allow them to share data more easily and efficiently. Though there exists a risk with this type of sharing, Liepman maintained that the number one threat to national security is not technology, but rather human beings.

They can also be our country's most valuable assets. "Our greatest successes occurred when we were inside the deepest secrets of our enemies," noted Allen. Locals tend to have the best knowledge about potential threats. Field agents worldwide assess the likelihood of danger and report back to their agencies. Officials then issue alerts if the combined knowledge indicates a high enough level of threat. "Our job is to illuminate threat, but we can't eliminate it," said Liepman. Instead, they try their best to protect this country while also protecting the civil liberties of the people.

An underlying theme of the talk was encouragement to join the CIA if at all interested. "It is an amazing adventure," said Liepman, especially for those who enjoy puzzles, telling stories, and consolidating information.

The Richard Nixon Foundation often hosts lectures similar to this one or puts on events on its premises. To view upcoming events, visit their website at <http://nixonfoundation.org/>.

Mission trips opportunities

JASON HOLTE
STAFF WRITER

This summer, Concordia will be sending teams of students to several countries to learn about other cultures and to perform service projects.

Depending on the number of applicants, at least two teams of graduated seniors will be traveling to China with faculty advisors to teach English to local students with all travel expenses paid. The deadline for applying was Fri., Feb. 1. Interested students were required to be in good academic standing with a minimum 2.8 GPA and a clean disciplinary record on campus. Students who are selected for the China trips will also be expected to provide a \$250 deposit to cover administrative expenses and to complete a one unit-course on Chinese culture and history later this semester.

Dr. Dan Waite, Executive Director of the Office of Global Programs, is in charge of the summer mission and service trips offered by the Office of Global Programs. In addition to the teaching excursions to China, the university is organizing study trips to China and Scotland for the May term, as well as service trips to countries such as Costa Rica, Uganda, and Kenya. Interested students will need to raise funds in order to offset travel costs. Close to 80 students will be participating in university-organized trips this summer.

"We go as guests, we go as learners, and we go as servants," said Waite. The teams will be looking for

areas where they can enter into partnerships with the local community in order to contribute something meaningful. There is a difference between a servant and a savior, however. "We don't go in to fix somebody's problem somewhere," said Waite.

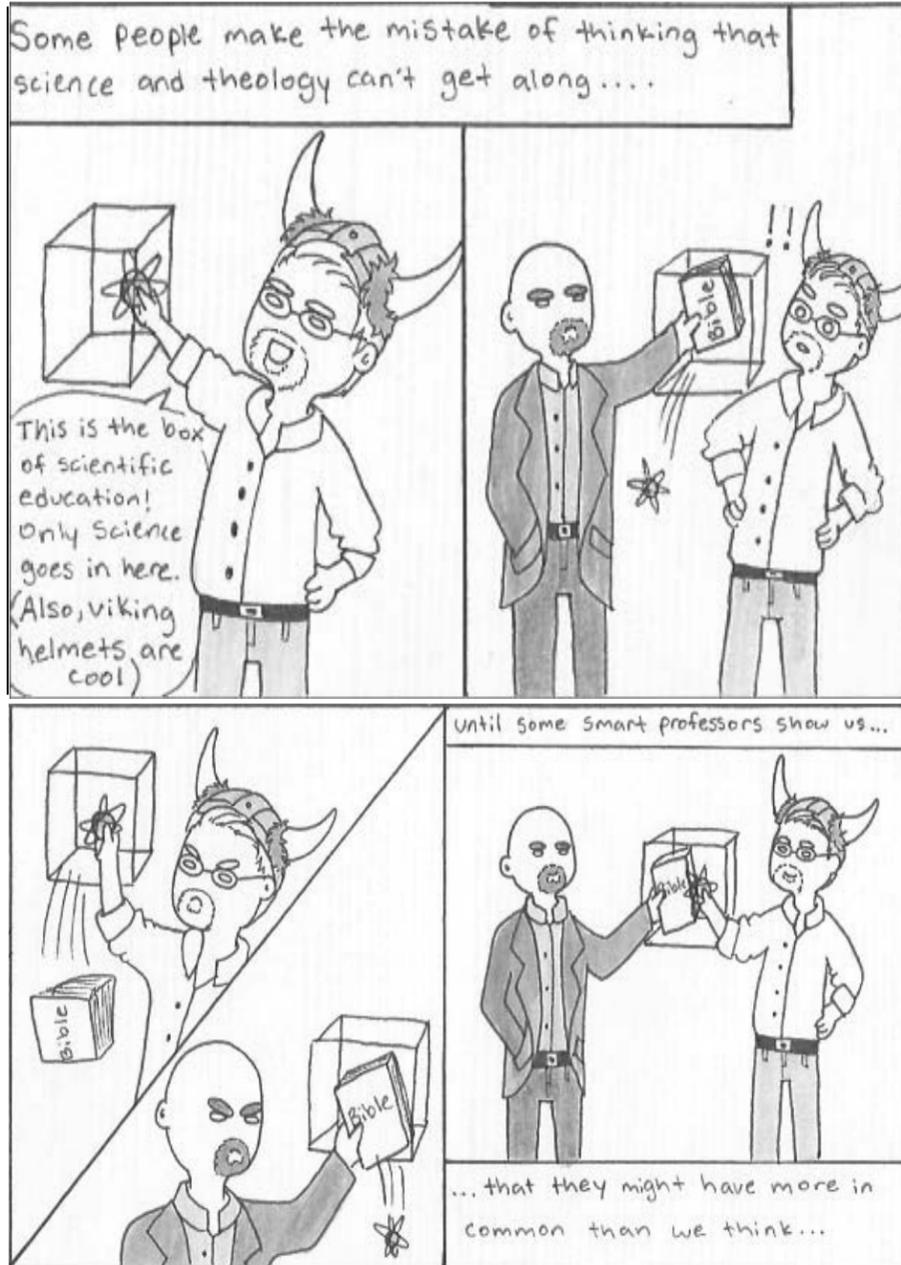
Adam Lee, Assistant Professor of English, led the recent Around-the-World (ATW) semester and has taken teams of students to over 30 countries since 2007. His advice to students interested in one of the mission trips is to become immersed in the culture ahead of time by studying the language, history, news, films, and music of the destination. "Don't read guidebooks; read novels," said Lee.

Paul Mendez, '12, was a member of one of the China teams last summer. "The China trip was a sort of epiphany that affirmed the plans I had post-graduation. It was a good time," said Mendez. "Kind of a break from my normal life, and I was glad to have something to come back to."

Wesley Gong, junior, participated in the ATW semester this year and believes that the experience complimented his studies at Concordia.

"ATW definitely made my experience at CUI richer. I learned so many things about myself and the world that we live in. I built stronger relationships with students and professors alike and saw God working in a multitude of ways," said Gong. "I would love to go on one of the summer trips in the future, and I encourage everyone to travel somewhere, whether it be with Concordia or not."





Special thanks to Professor Fluegge and Dr. Soper for teaching us that theology and science can work together.

BY HOPE HONETSCHLAGER



Tuck's Tune

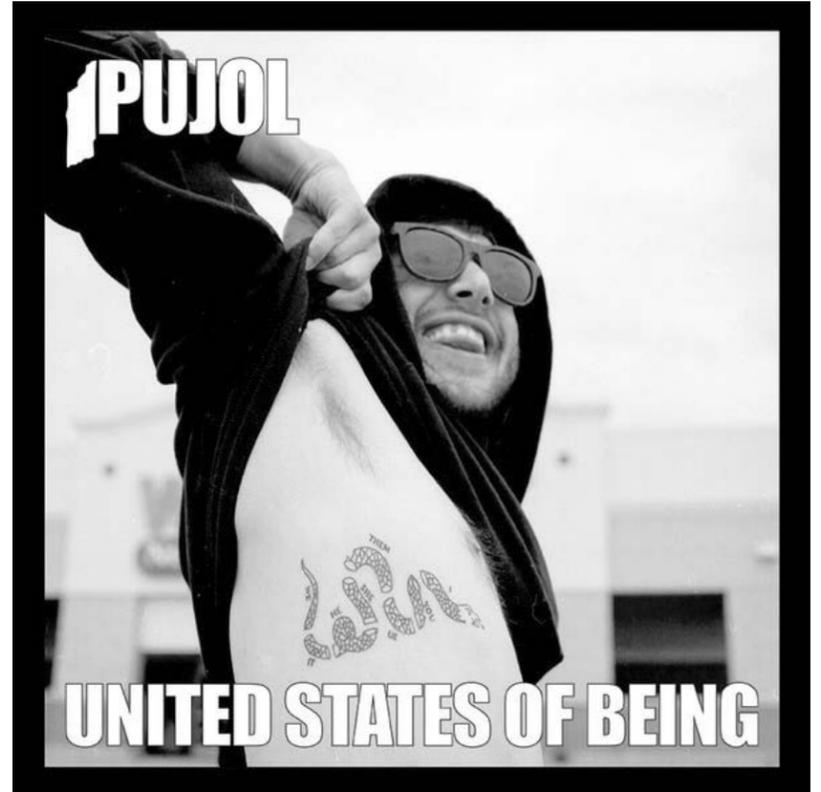
United States of Being by PUJOL

TUCKER THORSON
MUSIC GURU

Not to be confused with local slugger Albert Pujols, PUJOL is a band from Nashville, Tennessee, formed by Daniel Pujol. "United States of Being" is the group's debut album and is filled with fast paced songs, laid back lyrics, and a vocalist who isn't your conventional "great singer"; in fact, he pretty much just shouts the words to the songs. And that's what makes them great. While his voice might not be the best, you can hear the passion and electricity that matches so well with this style of music. PUJOL is one of the great rising bands on the surfer/garage rock side of the indie world. With

only EP's in their past, this debut album meets the expectations one would have after hearing their earlier stuff.

My personal favorite track on the album is "Dark Knight in Shining Armor", which is exactly what it sounds like... a song about Batman. This album is a great beach day album in my opinion as it gives off the vibes of just hanging around with friends and not really doing anything. It's been playing in my car for a little over a week now, and it's a blast to sing along to at the top of my lungs as I drive around town. If you're into any sort of punk or fast-paced rock music, I would definitely recommend United States of Being by PUJOL.



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Warm Bodies: Cool Movie

NICOLAS TOWNES
STAFF WRITER

Let me be clear, I hate when Hollywood makes monster movies into romances. The *Twilight* saga was like being in a dream with Freddy Krueger, and no matter what I did to wake up, more nightmares

just kept on coming. Why? Because I am a movie lover who enjoys good and complete storylines.

Monster movies are meant to have a few basic rules: vampires are cursed terrors with no souls, and they definitely turn to ashes in the sun (unless your name is Blade), not glow. Werewolves ought to be avoided at night because they turn into

mindless eating machines, and zombies are the living dead whose only motivation in life is to kill and spread their disease. So a movie about zombies coming back to life and falling in love sounded like a terrible idea. But then I watched *Warm Bodies*.

Warm Bodies is the new monster flick about a zombie named "R" who slowly starts becoming human, especially after meeting a person named "Julie." Just writing that sentence makes the movie lover in me cringe because of how stupid and anti-zombie-movie that sounds.... Alas! I watched a few reruns of "The Walking Dead" and then braved the premiere of *Warm Bodies*. I am so happy I did.

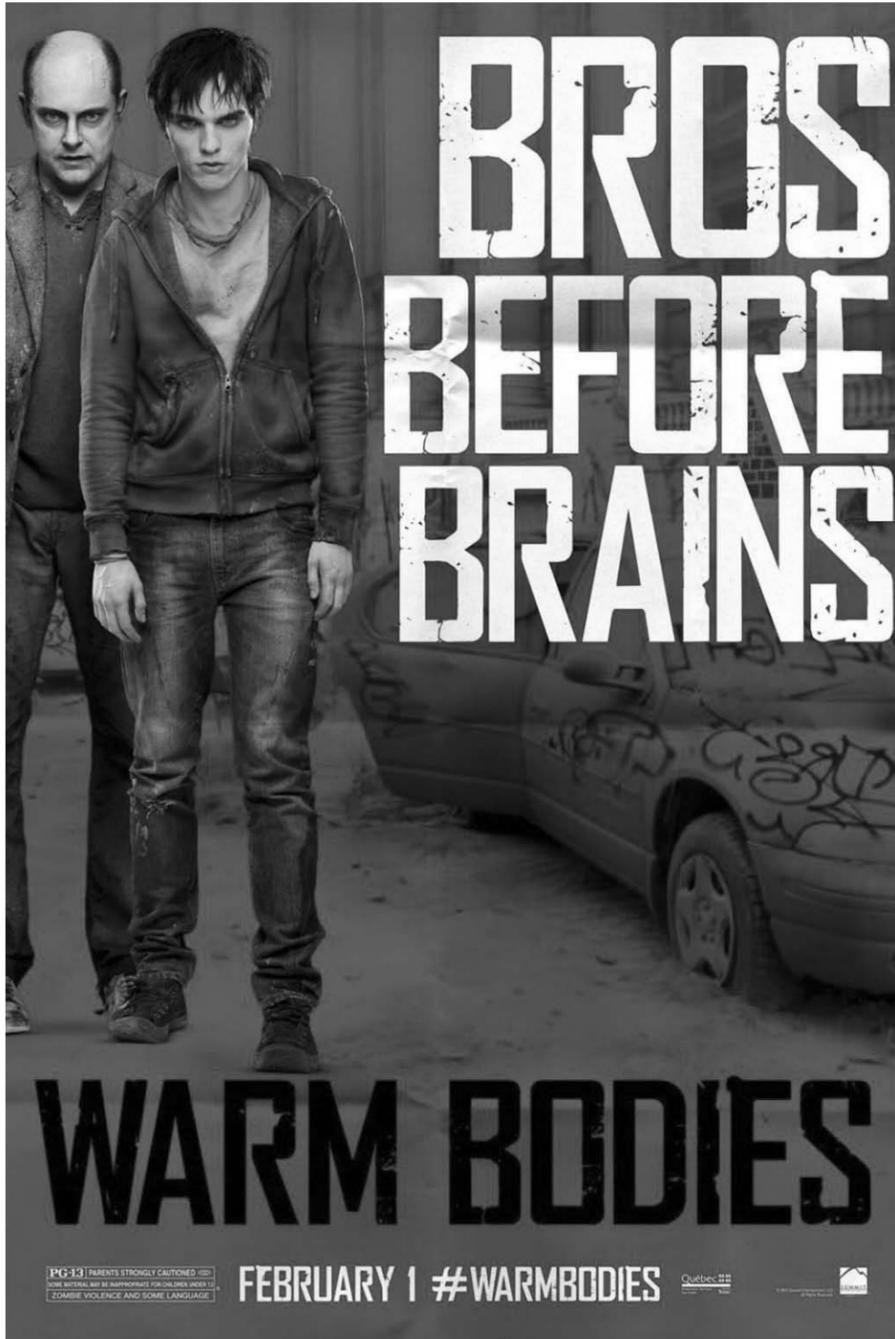
The first thing *Warm Bodies* did right was understand itself. It wasn't trying to become the next Teen Choice Award disaster that *Twilight* was (no offense to any 12-year-olds). *Warm Bodies* had a silly storyline and thus accepted being a silly movie. Much in the same way that *Zombieland* embraced the comedy perspective, *Warm Bodies* embraced its own silliness.

From the film's first scene until its last, the director made it clear that it was not going to take itself too seriously and invited the audience to just enjoy the laidback entertainment of the film. This redeemed the film because it never tried to justify itself. However, by embracing its own wackiness, the film actually delivered a rather sweet sub-narrative, which was romantic. Oh the irony!

Humor was used masterfully throughout the film. Whenever things started feeling too dramatic, the writers added in well-placed jokes and laugh-out-loud moments. The acting was solid, and the casting for each character seemed natural. When the movie's credits began to roll, I had to literally look to my sister and say, "That was actually a good movie...."

While this is not going to go down as one of the best movies ever, it never did anything wrong. It was good not because it had great moments, but because it avoided bad moments. The pace of the movie was quick and enjoyable. It didn't waste time on dumb plots, and every character's action was understandable and realistic. Every scene seemed to add something to the greater story, and I never felt bored. It even managed to add in real zombies to counter the fact that the movie was about anti-zombies.

If you are looking for some good ol' fashion entertainment, *Warm Bodies* is perfect. There are no big twists, no huge dramatic moments, no crazy evil villains, nor any political/religious/scientific questions asking the audience to contemplate the meaning of life, love, liberty, or the pursuit of team Edward or Jacob. Instead, this is a simple film and delivers nothing more than it promised: a silly movie with a semi-serious romantic vibe. *Warm Bodies* is just a cool movie.



Words of Wisdom

Alumni Perspectives

A fresh look at
Concordia from someone
who's been there...

PAUL MENDEZ
STAFF WRITER

Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad

I'm out of the river but the journey is forever inked in my mind. I am content. There is no horror and no evil, but there is still and will always be doubt. However, doubt is not a bad thing. It is merely another perspective, a sort of point of balance for the self. The first of my studies at Concordia were a sort of high school hangover—I had not changed as a person nor had I developed in any real way. I thought I knew what I wanted, but I was still caught up in my voyage through the jungle.

Peter Pan, J.M. Barrie

Nothing changed—I was the same kid I was the year before. Things happened, but I was still a boy. I took an anthropology class and loved it. There were stories and perspectives and tons of new information. I was having fun. I enjoyed my time, never said "no", and crammed as much as I could into every day. I was busy but had no real purpose other than doing things for fun. I thought I was set in my decision-making, and I thought the rest of my life was planned out. But I still didn't know what I was looking for.

As I Lay Dying, William Faulkner

My first real challenge was not my first job but rather to begin to truly care about my studies. My first change of perspective dealt with focus. My focus changed from the future to the present. I had found a new path to take—one that I had overlooked for so long. I took all of the things I had done well before and did better than my best. I began to reconsider my life as a student and what was expected of me. All of this was still new to me, and my name was still a blur, but a visible blur.

Paradise Lost, John Milton

Then everything changed. I had about one year left of my undergraduate career, and all that was familiar was taken from me; I was alone in the dark with only a teasing light to look at. I had to rebuild my thoughts, my plans, and just about my entire life. I saw all the paths around me, but none of them really went anywhere. I was looking for something but only found questions and no answers. What I did find was a method to my hunt.

The Cocktail Party, T.S. Eliot

There was light again, but it was still dark out. I wasn't hiding from it, but I was a bit distracted. I began to take my time. Besides, I was tired and I needed a break. Starting from nothing is a lot harder than it seems, especially when you have to reboot while still maintaining everything that was there before. There was no clean slate, only a reassessment—a big one. I found a few good answers and ideals that held me together enough to rebuild myself.

A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens

Four years here with the same community helped refine what I was doing. The best thing about tearing yourself apart once is that you then know how to put everything back together. I found myself intrigued by everything I did—like a child. I saw with new eyes but knew what I was looking at. I was able to create a cycle for myself that was completely self-sustaining, one that had no single foundation but was purely stable. There was nothing that I could not handle and nothing that would break me. Through sacrifice, I recreated my name.

The Old Man and the Sea, Ernest Hemingway

I had cemented my name: in class, at work, on campus. I became someone of value. However long that lasts is not important. It happened, and I enjoyed it. The people I interacted with have some good (or bad) stories about me too. The metaphorical fish I caught was not where I sought attention but rather in the act of fishing. Concordia University is what many colleges no longer are: a place to find the self. Without it and without the help of those around me, I really have no idea where I would be. One thing is certain: this narrative wouldn't exist.

Welcome to the Pita Jungle

MAGGIE DARBY
ARTS AND REVIEWS EDITOR

Hi, my name is Maggie Darby and I love French fries. Okay, now that I got that off my chest, we can talk food. My daily diet consists of French fries, dinosaur chicken nuggets, and microwave mac-n-cheese. Occasionally I'll go for a burger if I'm feeling really exotic, but that's about it.

Anyway, recently, I've taken it upon myself to reevaluate my diet. Apparently metabolism doesn't last forever. So while choosing the restaurant I would review for the *Courier* for this issue, I considered healthier options. Pita Jungle is the restaurant that fit my budget and allowed me to fit my jeans.

Pita Jungle is a low-calorie alternative to most restaurants when eating out. Filled with Mediterranean options and a slogan saying, "the art of eating healthy," Pita Jungle impressed me in a variety of ways. Not only was the service great, the prices were also very reasonable.

Arriving at 5:55 p.m., our waiter advised us to order quickly in order to be eligible for their happy hour, which is 3-6 p.m. daily. He happily allowed us to order their \$2 hummus trio, even though we nearly missed it. The hummus trio was delicious; we got original hummus, roasted bell pepper hummus and cilantro jalapeno hummus with enough pita to share. Originally, this appetizer is \$5.99, but their happy hour made it significantly cheaper, and that menu has many more options.

For my entrée, I decided on the spicy chicken wrap, priced at \$8.99. It was gigantic. Imagine Chipotle burrito size but 1.5 times that and a pita instead of a tortilla. Stuffed with spicy, marinated, grilled chicken, mixed beans, squash, brown rice,

cauliflower, broccoli, onions, and a blend of herbs, it was an explosion of flavor. I could barely eat half of it, and it came with a side of garlic mashed potatoes that were DELISH. They definitely were not skimpy on the garlic. The entire wrap was amazingly only 540 calories, which blew me away! I could be a total fatty and eat a ton while not actually being a total fatty.

My friend ordered the Shawarma hot pita simply because of the scene at the end of *Avengers* where Tony Stark asks everyone to go try Shawarma with him. Anyway, it did not disappoint. Piping hot and filled to the brim with Mediterranean roasted chicken, onions, lettuce, tomatoes, and a

special sauce, it was a delicious 600 calories spent.

The two meals, appetizer, and fresh squeezed lemonade with a hint of guava totaled a mere \$25, and we had two boxes to take home with meals for the next day. If you're looking to spice up your weekly routine of caf food but not gain 10 pounds at a burger joint, definitely check this place out. It only took about 10 minutes to drive from campus (located at MacArthur and Bison Ave.), and the prices, service, and amazing food were definitely worth the gas.

Take a date, a friend, or your parents. I'm sure anyone will love the food they order, and their wallet and waistlines won't suffer too terribly either.

