

THE Concordia Courier

Investigate. Inform. Ignite. Involve.

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Read up to avoid getting written up

EMILY GESKE
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With all the buzz that has surrounded the new alcohol policy, it remains to be determined how many people have actually read it and understand exactly what can get them in trouble. For instance, did you know that it is possible to get written up for alcohol without even setting a foot on Concordia's campus?

“...where a student can get sentenced to anything from probation to a monetary fine to getting kicked out of school.”

Serving alcohol to a minor is obviously against the law, but it is grounds for disciplinary action at the hands of the university as well. “Our jurisdiction extends off campus,” explained Dr. Gilbert Fugitt, Dean of Students. If underage students return to campus intoxicated, not only do they get written up, but the people who provided them alcohol do as well, as noted in section 2.5 of the Student Code of Conduct. “The only way we ever find out or investigate off campus things is if it comes back to us,” said Fugitt. “We do not go out searching for anything; it's only when it's brought to us.” The main reason behind the new policies is not theological; rather, he stressed that it has to do with Concordia being liable for its students and their behavior.

These policies are not just theoretical; they have already been put into practice. I spoke with a student who has experienced the enforcing of these policies. Wishing to remain anonymous, the stu-

dent will be referred to as John. “We had a housewarming thing and invited a group of people over,” said John. “They said it was at our apartment, so we got in trouble” when a minor came back to campus drunk.

It is also not allowed for students to drink alcohol off campus if attending a university sponsored event. This includes events like Outdoor Rec hikes or gatherings at a faculty or staff member's house, according to Fugitt. “We're trying to build up who we are or what we're about in Orange County,” he said of Concordia.

However, there may be some discrepancy about what constitutes an event. “We got in trouble for drinking at a university sponsored event” even though they had just invited a group of friends over, said John. “We even asked Karyn Pace [Director of Judicial Affairs] about it. She said even if [the minor] was 21 and had brought the alcohol to our house, we would still be in trouble because, since it was at our house, it was still our responsibility.”

Consequences of violating these alcohol policies result in a hearing, where a student can get sentenced to anything from probation to a monetary fine to getting kicked out of school. Though Fugitt explained that students who get in trouble can still attend university events, student leaders intimated that they were directed to cross off names of those put on university probation from the list of homecoming nominees.

The principal objective of the university as stressed by Fugitt is to keep its students safe. Possible secondary effects of alcohol abuse, such as sexual assault, violence, and vandalism, are what Concordia is trying to prevent. Also, those who break the law would likely rather deal with the school than the state of California. “It's much better for them probably to go through it with us than to have a police record,” said Fugitt.

Though you may not agree with the alcohol policy, it is wise to familiarize yourself with the Student Code of Conduct in order to protect yourself from unforeseen repercussions. If anything seems unclear, Fugitt encourages students to come talk to him about their questions. The smartest course of action is just to listen to every alcohol commercial you've ever seen, and drink responsibly.

End of the endless wiffle?

JASON HOLTE
STAFF WRITER

Concordia's annual Wiffleball Tournament for Diabetes will not take place this year. The 60-hour event has been a part of campus life for the past five years, but due to the problems associated with the late night portions of the tournament, there will not be a sixth edition this spring.



“It really had gotten away from what it was about, and the American Diabetes Association part really wasn't even mentioned or didn't seem to be part of it anymore,” said Dr. Gilbert Fugitt, Dean of Students. “It went from being something that could draw the campus community together to something that was dividing them because people saw it as something that didn't represent what Concordia was about.”

The midnight to 5 a.m. shifts of the tournament were particular areas of concern for university staff. “There was too much student misconduct in the evening, with the Jesus statue being moved around during that time last year,” Fugitt said.

The Wiffleball Tournament was created by Concordia graduate Peter Ferry, '08, in 2006 to benefit diabetes research. Ferry's two younger brothers have both been diagnosed with the dis-

ease, and he was inspired by his father's 52-hour Wiffleball Tournament for breast cancer awareness. Peter Ferry's father, Rev. Dr. Patrick Ferry, is the President of Concordia University Wisconsin. “The tournament has raised several thousand dollars for diabetes research, and awareness more than anything else,” said Patrick Ferry. “I'm sorry to see it go because it was becoming part of the culture on campus, but not if it was straying from its intended purpose.”

The school's decision does not shock students that participated in the tournament in previous years. “I'm not overly surprised that the event isn't being put on this year, given how wild it has been previously, but I still think it's a bummer,” said Scott Kolmer, '12. “It was a really cool thing for some of us seniors last year to have an event like that to bring us all together and have fun, so I feel bad for the seniors this year who won't get that.”

Although the 60-hour event will not take place this year, there is still an opportunity to organize a different form of Wiffleball for those students who are interested. “We would love to support American Diabetes,” said Fugitt. “We can have some kind of Wiffleball tournament. We aren't saying that Wiffleball is not allowed, but we're saying the 60-hour tournament is not going to happen this year.”

Stephen Ferry, sophomore brother of Peter, played in last year's game. “Participating in the event was really fun for me; it felt like I was carrying on my brother's legacy and tradition, and that was a cool feeling,” said Stephen Ferry. “As a diabetic, it was a great feeling to know there is support and awareness out there for diabetics.”

“I would definitely consider stepping up to help organize the wiffleball marathon one day if it was needed,” said Stephen Ferry. “It's kind of a family tradition, and I would be honored to carry on my brother's legacy and try to fight diabetes in any way I can.”

Any student interested in organizing a wiffleball tournament for this year is encouraged to talk to Christie Clark, the Director of Community Involvement and Leadership Development, at christie.clark@cui.edu, or to visit the CSLD.

Soccer league takes over student parking

SARINA GRANT
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Since the beginning of the school year, parents of club soccer players have been parking in the residential parking lot behind Rho and Sigma, limiting available spaces for students.

The security office is taking action; however, there are some remaining complications.

“Part of the challenge is the way that the facility is set up,” said Steven Rodriguez, Director of Campus Safety. Currently, with the exception of the baseball fields, the fields do not have a designated parking lot.

“All soccer people are advised, both at the gate house and by the patrol officers, that even if they're dropping off or picking up, they need to do so at the West Parking Lot, known as the Baseball Lot,” said Rodriguez. “We're doing what we can with what we have, but there's a lot of these little challenges.”

One of the proposed solutions to the problem is restricting residence hall parking to residents only. This more drastic approach would make it so that parents, friends, and other visitors wouldn't be able to park by the residence halls and would have to

find parking elsewhere. Another suggested solution is to offer a limited parking pass, designating that soccer parents are only allowed to park in the West Lot.

The Department of Campus Safety has also run into challenges in regards to signage. The different parking lots don't currently have labeled signs or designate who is allowed to park where. This makes solutions like issuing soccer parents a limited parking pass difficult. “At the end of the day, there's going to have to be a more permanent solution,” Rodriguez said.

“As a resident, you're lucky to get a parking spot around the dorms, so when you see parents blocking potential spots, it's kind of annoying,” said Rachel Beyer, senior. “But, if I was a soccer parent, I would probably do the same thing since it's the closest place to park.”

“I understand parking on campus is frustrating. We do have a lot of vehicles, particularly in the residential hall area,” Rodriguez said. “We've been pursuing the problem much more aggressively. We're doing what we can, and we're looking into other solutions to permanently solve the problem.”

To voice your concerns or opinions on this topic, contact ASCUI.



Editorial: #FirstWorldProblems

DAETONA LAURENCE
SPORTS EDITOR

In the past, I've used an editorial as an article in which I can vent about whatever happens to be annoying me. So, when I decided to write the editorial for this issue, I started to think about what was really getting on my nerves lately. Is it the parking situation at CUI, the inability of people to merge onto the 405 freeway, the fact that Justin Bieber's new hit is on the radio every other song? Or maybe it's that Marco Rubio took a drink of his water bottle in front of the camera during his response to President Obama's State of the Union.

A multitude of superficial "problems" like these crossed my mind when deciding what exactly to write about. Although it may sound a bit cliché, it became unavoidably evident through this brainstorming session that every single one of these issues falls into the category known as "first world problems."

As I scrolled through various social media sites, I realized that the majority of my friends and family also suffered from the unavoidable plague of first world problems. Sure, every once in a while we throw in a hashtag poking fun at privilege, but it's unlikely that we actually acknowledge how lucky we really are when we're having a personal photo shoot with the delicious dessert we're snacking on. Maybe I'm just living in a little bubble of denial, but often times it seems that we don't really acknowledge how blessed we are to have a plate of food in front of us, let alone a phone to take a picture with in our hands.

So many positive things surround us that we become accustomed to a certain quality of life, taking advantage of so many blessings that we don't

even realize we have. Millions of people around the world are facing hardships that we are unable to acknowledge because we're blinded by our own first world problems. Adults, children, and senior citizens starve while we post pictures of our gourmet cheeseburgers on Instagram. Daughters and sons are forced to work before they're even old enough to know what they're actually working for, women are required to hide their faces and bodies before they leave the house, men are expected to fight for a cause they're not even sure they support, while we sit in the comfort of our warm homes texting our friends and updating our statuses.

I'm not trying to generate a guilt trip about indulging in the benefits that we are lucky enough to experience living in a first world country, and I'm definitely not saying that we don't face real, meaningful problems in our lives. What I am saying is that sometimes we all need a reminder not to take advantage of the blessings God showers upon us each day. Even the smallest thing such as the opportunity to eat in the cafeteria could mean the world to someone who is less privileged than we.

In the big scheme of things, writing this editorial helped me realize that I need to be grateful above all else. Hebrews 12:28-29 tells us: "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire." God provided us with the ultimate sacrifice in Jesus Christ, and we should be grateful for the eternal gift of salvation that He has given us, along with the countless other blessings in our lives. Instead of focusing on all of our first world problems, we should focus on being thankful for the abundant opportunities that surround us.

From British Eyes Only

Colonial Education 101: Part 6, Valentine's Day

LAWRENCE OXBOROUGH
STAFF WRITER

Good afternoon class, and happy belated single's awareness day. To those of you who find yourselves in a relationship of one sort or another, please try to contain your excitement and drama as another year's Valentine's Day has come to pass.

To everyone's intense pleasure, you'll all be glad to hear that Valentine's Day is indeed the topic for this week's class. It is a bit of a special and unique class, as you will notice that I am not "educating colonials" this week, since unfortunately the plague that is the reign of St. Valentine is regrettably world-wide. Prepare yourselves, class, for a Valentine's Day rant.

First off, who is the Valentine bloke anyway? What authority does he have to make single people very much aware of their marital status? Does he know that every year at least 27,000 single 15-year-old girls go to school sobbing to themselves, listening to Taylor Swift's new album, oblivious to the futile desire for their very own Prince Charming who, quite frankly, is never going to show? Also, who is the Cupid muppet who thinks it's acceptable to fly around, shooting innocent people with a bow and arrow?

If you ask me, it's totally irresponsible, as chances are the people he shoots are single for a reason. Perhaps the last thing they want is to be involuntarily thrown into what is effectively a pre-arranged marriage, statistically likely to end in some sort of messy divorce anyway. Somebody needs to find this Cupid character and take his bow licence away.

Valentine's Day has also become a huge commercial selling point for shops. Rose sales increase up to 600% over the Valentine's week as boyfriends, husbands, and hopefuls across the globe try desperately to please their significant others. Sappy,

sentimental, and cringe-worthy cards written up by unimaginative loners in card design companies get their moment in the spotlight as they pray on those who are even less imaginative themselves, failing to come up with something a little more original than:

"Roses are Red,
Violets are Blue,
Your cooking is great,
And your driving is too."

Obviously, the example above is similar to the efforts of a man who has significantly angered his girlfriend, and has been reduced to trying anything, since "I love you" had less of an effect at cheering her up after commenting on the obnoxious size of her wardrobe.

Of course, it would be unfair of me to give Valentine's Day no credit at all. Whilst it does force the male side of relationships to take their better halves out for a date, the hopefuls who were lucky enough to get a "yes" finally get their moment to impress and spark the beginning of what could be the raging fire of passionate, enduring love. For the creative and the brave, Valentine's Day could just be the saving grace for single people. For indeed, love is a wonderful thing, and it should be celebrated by everyone (even those who have convinced themselves that they will never find it, and those who have convinced themselves that they will never want to find it), but should Valentine's Day be different for couples than any other day?

I suppose this is where my very own sentimental advice goes out to not just you male colonials, but all men of the world. Treat every day like Valentine's Day, because a girl is never going to turn away flowers or chocolates (unless she's lactose intolerant or suffers from severe hay fever), and making your partner feel loved and special 365 days of the year is what's really needed to...

You get the point.



THE Concordia Courier

Emily Geske, Editor-in-Chief

Alicia Harger, Layout Editor

Maggie Darby, Arts/Reviews Editor

Sarina Grant, Campus Life/
Local & Global Interests Editor

Daetona Laurence, Sports/
Everything Eagles Editor

Faculty Advisor

Professor Ashlie Siefkes

Faculty Advisory Board

Professor Lori Siekmann

Professor Adam Lee
Dr. Daniel van Voorhis

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the Office of the Provost

1530 Concordia West, Irvine CA, 92612
Lambda Lounge
newspaper@cui.edu
cui.edu/studentlife/student-newspaper

Writers

Trever Benjamin, Malaika Bigirumwami,
Carly Bishop, Kyle Borcharding,
Alexandra Castellanos, Caitlyn
Davenport, Ben Dull, Jason Holte,
Jessica Israel, Haley Johnson, Kristina
Krug, Breanna Lafferman, Paul Mendez,
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A university facing east

ANNA STERN
STAFF WRITER

On Feb. 5, Concordia hosted a group of 18 high school students visiting from Shenzhen, China. These students were on a college tour and visited other schools such as Harvard, Yale, and New York University (NYU).

Colleges weren't the only places the group visited. While in Orange County, they got to experience the magic of places like Disneyland and Universal Studios.

Once the students reached Concordia, they got a little taste of the college experience from sitting in on communications and marketing classes. Learning aside, they joined in on activities such as Frisbee, Bocce Ball, and eating in the Student Union (Caf).

"They loved the Caf and the food and kept telling me how fat they would be if they went here," said Dr. Dan Waite, Executive Director of the Office of Global Programs. Yet the food was not the only thing that caught the students' attention in the Caf. "The students were amazed at how the teachers and students ate together," Waite said.

The arrival of the Chinese students was a great example of Concordia's increasing relations with China.

There is currently a summer program in Shenzhen, China, open to a group of 30 to 40 graduate students. Those participating get the opportunity to teach English while working on their Master's Degree.

Although there are currently no semester-long study abroad opportunities in China for undergraduates, there is a May Term course being offered this year by Roger Phillips, Professor of Business.

While many Concordia students have had the privilege of studying abroad, the University hopes that more international students will choose to study right here in Irvine.

With a higher export rate of students than import rate, Faith McKinney, Assistant Director of Global Programs, seeks to send more students to China in the future. McKinney urges students to talk to her so she can fit studying abroad into a course plan.

For more information on studying abroad and global programs, contact Waite or McKinney in the Office of Global Programs, Admin. 120.



ASCUI elections

JADE REED
STAFF WRITER

On Fri., Feb. 8, Concordia students voted to elect the 2013-2014 ASCUI Executive Board.

"Voting is important because it is important for students to have a voice," said Shannon Alavi, sophomore.

"ASCUI gives a connection between the administration and the students, so that their voice could be heard," said senior Brianna Lamanna, ASCUI Vice President. "The board is the best outlet for issues that students may have that need to be heard."

The election this year was unusual, because the secretary position was the only position that had more than one person running. All the other positions were uncontested. "I was somewhat shaken to run because I didn't want to make enemies, but I couldn't let this opportunity pass," said Kathleen Ann Sagun, junior, ASCUI Secretary elect.

Even though four out of the five offices ran uncontested, candidates still needed to receive 15% of the total vote to be elected. If the 15% was not reached, there would have been an additional runoff election. The constitution dictating election regulation was created many years ago, but it has been maintained by Lamanna. This 15% rule was updated for the Fall election.

The new ASCUI board consists of Jamie Rivera, junior President elect; Lawrence Oxborough, sophomore Vice President elect; Kathleen Ann

Sagun, junior Secretary elect; Christine Gonzalez, junior Treasurer elect; and Melissa Wilson, junior Communications Director elect.

The new team will work closely with the current ASCUI team for the remainder of the year. They will be shadowing the officers, as well as holding meetings of their own. "The training is hands-on, and Jamie will be following my every move so that she could see what her job will be like next year," said Elyssa Sullivan, ASCUI President.

The main goal for ASCUI is to have clear communication, consistent representation, and speaking God's truth and love in the work they do. "ASCUI is committed to serve not only the students, but also Christ," said Rivera.

ASCUI is important for our campus because it gives students a voice on subjects that need to be addressed, and it connects the student body with the faculty, staff, and administration. "Without ASCUI, students would have no student representation, and the administration and faculty would have no idea of what the students were feeling," said Sullivan.

"Voting for ASCUI gives the students the power to vote for the best candidate that would represent us students," said Caitlyn Lau, junior. "Since we have the power, we should take advantage of it and vote."

The newly elected President and Vice President's first official day in office is in June, while the rest of the board begins their work in August.



ASCUI
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY IRVINE

Don't be afraid of "disability"

JESSICA ISRAEL
STAFF WRITER

The Disability and Learning Resource Center (DLRC) is available year-round for all students, even those who have not been diagnosed with a disability. If a student is having difficulties with test taking or understanding class lectures, the DLRC is the place to get help. Not only is the DLRC able to provide accommodations for those with disabilities, but they can also assist students that need help with things like organization and note taking skills.

As a highly organized center, the DLRC's mission statement is to create "seamless access through consultation and collaboration and the provision of reasonable accommodations." With this mission comes a commitment by the employees of the DLRC to accommodate and help those who are struggling in their classes.

Although the majority of students who the DLRC helps are students who are diagnosed with a disability, they still aim to help those without an official diagnosis. "With the word 'disability' on your door, there's that fear of not wanting to be associated with being disabled, and I don't see them as being disabled," said Terilyn Colacino, Director of Disability and Learning Services. "The word disability carries a lot of power, so I do like having the words 'Learning Center' as well, because people

can come in under that pretense to get additional help with test taking skills or note taking or organizational skills."

Not only does the DLRC work with students, but they also work with faculty members to create an understanding to help students succeed in class. "The DLRC helps students communicate with teachers, because it can be intimidating to go up to a teacher to ask for extra time on a test," said Dr. Rod Soper, Associate Professor of Biology. The faculty and staff are very willing and understanding when it comes to working with students. One of the many jobs of the DLRC is to create communication between the students and faculty. Each student is treated differently on the basis of his or her individual needs.

In the future, the DLRC hopes to "continue providing an accessible and equitable educational and social experience for our students," said Colacino. Giving students who are struggling in class a chance to learn how to improve their study skills is one of the main purposes of the DLRC. Although the majority of their clients are previously diagnosed, they still aim to help students who are willing to listen to their advice.

Stop by Admin. 114 to pick up a pamphlet and additional resources, or make an appointment to find out how the DLRC can help you. Email Colacino at terilyn.colacino@cui.edu.

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Basketball season closing soon

HALEY JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

As basketball season winds down, both Eagles' teams continue to work hard and persevere. The men's basketball team has earned a 16-10 overall record and 5-7 GSAC record. The women currently have a 6-19 overall record, going 4-8 in the GSAC.

During Homecoming week, both teams played against The Masters College (TMC) on Feb. 9. The women fell to the Mustangs by a score of 63-91, but the men's team conquered TMC 66-55. Both teams went on to face devastating losses against Vanguard on Feb. 12. The defending national champions fell to the Lions, 82-78, and the Lady Eagles struggled with a final score of 86-55.

Although the men's team lost a few starters last season, the team still has inspirational leaders on the squad that contribute to the team's overall dynamic. Dakota Downs, senior, and Tim Harris, junior, have led the Eagles in scoring, averaging 16.2 and 16.8 points per game, respectively. "Our goal for the rest of the season is to win the rest of our games and to get to Nationals in Kansas City," said Downs.

The women's team has struggled this season but still has a positive attitude. "We want to get as

far as we can to the best of our abilities," said Alana Allensworth, freshman. Each game, the Lady Eagles continue to search for their roles on the court and develop good team chemistry. Ashley Engeln, junior, and Katie Ogdon, freshman, are huge contributors to the team's offense, earning a combined average of 23.6 points per game.

Fan participation can impact a game's out-

come, and both teams encourage fans to come out and support them. "Fans are really important, no matter how good the team is," said David Garcia, junior fan and supporter. Be sure to come out to the CU Center and support both Eagle basketball teams as they take on Westmont College tonight. The Lady Eagles will play at 5:30 p.m., and the men follow at 7:30 p.m.



Baseball hunt is under way

CARLY BISHOP
STAFF WRITER

The 2013 Men's baseball season is underway, and the Eagles are showing promising signs of playing their way back to Idaho, home of the NAIA National Tournament. The Eagles opened the season with a 2-1 series against Arizona Christian and went on to beat Asuzu Pacific, The Masters, and Menlo College. The team's overall record is 9-7, and their GSAC record is 5-4.

Head Coach Mike Grahovac's philosophy is to win every pitch. "We don't care who we play. [It] doesn't matter where we play; we worry about each pitch," said Grahovac. "Everything else will take care of itself." Grahovac utilizes a high-speed offense that takes time for players to become fully adjusted to. "I feel like we are all starting to come together, and we're learning how to play together and have fun doing it," said Matt Palmer, senior shortstop.

Each year, the team goal is to win a national championship. The Eagles are confident in their chances of becoming champions again this season. "We have a very intelligent coaching staff and a great group of ball players," said Sean Buford, senior pitcher. "We know we have the approach, talent, and have put in the hard work in order to put ourselves in the position to go back to Lewiston [Idaho]."

Overcoming adversity and learning from mistakes will be important strategies in getting to Nationals. The team's main focus is executing their game plan and not worrying about things they

cannot control. The Eagles believe that hard work and positive execution will allow them to get the results they want.

Grahovac front-loads the team's schedule with tough games so the Eagles can face talented teams early in the season. This strategy allows the team to become more prepared for the teams they will face at the end of conference and playoffs.

This season, the Eagles will also have to overcome the GSAC's new rule that requires each team

to play their opponents in six games instead of four: three home games and three away. Grahovac likes this change because it splits and spreads the games out more than in previous seasons. However, the Eagles are mentally strong and ready for the long days of baseball they will face throughout the season.

The Eagles square off against Biola University in three home games this weekend, Feb. 22-23. Their first game begins at 2 p.m. on Saturday.



Here to prove them wrong

ALEX MIRANDA
STAFF WRITER

The Women's softball team opened their season on Jan. 23 with a 10-2 win at the University of San Diego. Since their season opener, the Eagles have earned a 7-2 record. The team entered the season ranked fifth in the NAIA Preseason Softball Poll and looks forward to exceeding expectations.

The Eagles recently traveled to Redding, CA, to participate in the Simpson Tournament. The Lady Eagles clashed with ninth ranked Oregon Tech in their first game and were unable to get a win, falling 2-4. However, the team was able to overcome their losses and come out with a 4-2 tournament record.

Despite losing eight senior players this past year, the team has found a way to overcome adversity and start off the season with a bang. "Most people thought this would be a rebuilding year

but we're here to prove them wrong," said Breanna Silzer, senior.

Silzer is just one of the six seniors on this year's roster. After returning from the Simpson Tournament, the team found itself unsatisfied with their performance and eager for redemption. "The wins we did get weren't up to our standards," said Silzer. "We will lose every time when we don't put all the pieces together."

The team's coaching staff helps the team find success by creating a second family for the women. Head Coach Crystal Rosenthal is returning for her fifth season to coach the team, along with four assistant coaches: Rose Imbriano, Ashley Evans, Alex Ariaz, and Brittany Pereda. Rosenthal has compiled a 186-58 overall record in her career at Concordia and continues to show her dedication to her team. Silzer described Coach Rosenthal as "caring about the team's well being and the well being of

the program."

As reigning GSAC Conference Champions, the Eagles have a lot of expectations to live up to and plan on making their mark this season. Not only is the team working to improve their own performance on the field, they are also working to improve the performance of younger players. Every week after practice, the team stays late in order to hold a softball clinic for aspiring players in the community. The Eagles are given the chance to coach the girls and contribute to their softball experience. "It's rewarding for us to be able to give what our coaches have taught us to them," said Silzer.

The Eagles' next home game is this Thursday at 1 p.m., when they will face off against William Jessup University in a double header. The Eagles are also playing in double headers on Feb. 22 and 23 at home.

SportsLine



Kyle Borcharding

NBA Mid-Season Report: The Western Conference

All-Star Weekend has come to a close, and it's time to gear up for the home stretch in professional basketball. In part two of the 3-part series, we'll examine the Western Conference of the NBA. Certainly the better of the two conferences thus far, the West has remarkable talent and a number one seed that is up for grabs at this point in the season.

The NBA's best record currently belongs to the San Antonio Spurs, who took a 15-1 record over their last 16 games into the weekend. This team continues to exceed critics' expectations despite the aged veterans that seem to run the show. Even with Duncan having missed significant time due to a knee injury, they remain the NBA's best team. Much of San Antonio's young talent has been underrated because of Parker, Duncan, and Ginobili, but the Spurs' bench is formidable and quick.

Their grip on the West's best record is a loose one. Oklahoma City remains only 2.5 games back even after losing back-to-back contests. Durant and Westbrook continue to turn heads, and the Thunder continues to win games in a difficult conference.

The Los Angeles Clippers are only 4.5 games behind San Antonio, and they have shown throughout the season their ability to beat any team in the league. While they have had their ups and downs this season, it is clear that the Clippers will be contenders come playoff time. Even with Chris Paul missing time due to injury, Eric Bledsoe has stepped up at point guard, stepping in to offset the missing offensive production.

Finally, the state of the Lakers must be addressed. The favorite of many a sportswriter entering the season, the Lakers entered All-Star Weekend with a record miserably below .500 and outside the top eight teams in the West that would make the postseason as of now. One can't help but expect them to turn it around with the talent on their roster, but time and time again, the team has been unable to put together a consistent run.

I maintain that if they are able to sneak into the playoffs, there is no reason they could not win the championship with an impressive run. But something has to change. The team is short on time to turn things around the way Miami did just two years ago. Even if they were the eighth seed, the Lakers would be a scary team to face. However, they know, like all sports fans, that time is running out.

The remaining part of the season will be very exciting to follow. Injuries may play a pivotal role as the playoffs are determined, and several other teams (Memphis? Golden State?) could surprise people in the second half. Be sure to read the next issue of the *Courier* for the Eastern Conference preview.



A fine day to preview the arts

CAMESHA PATTON
STAFF WRITER

Last Saturday, the Arts Department hosted Fine Arts Preview Day, an annual event welcoming prospective students to campus. This event also encouraged students to audition for music and theatre scholarships.

Because of events like this that give exposure to the arts departments, Concordia's Fine Arts population has grown exponentially since its founding days. The event went from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., featuring 20-minute concerts by the Concordia Choir, Concert Handbells, Concordia Wind Orchestra, Sinfonietta, and student soloists.

"On paper, this is the strongest and largest crop of prospective students ever at Fine Arts Preview Day," said Dr. Jeff Held, Director of Instrumental Activities. This event was a really unique opportunity for prospective students to get a feel for the campus. Dr. Marin Jacobson, Assistant Professor of Music described the atmosphere as, "high energy and enthusiasm and a spirit of hospitality, welcoming prospective students to campus."

Professors of the arts were both encouraged and delighted to see the large turn out and were even more pleased with the performances of Concordia's students. "The purpose of the event was to

give prospective students with an interest in the performing arts an opportunity to hear performers from Concordia's music department, including large ensembles and individual performers, and to sample the theatre department," said Jacobson.

In addition to the musical performances, Concordia's theatre department performed two scenes from their recent rendition of Footloose. Lead performer in Footloose, sophomore Wesley Barnes, said, "It was as if I performed it for the very first time. It was exciting to gain the responses that we did from our viewers."

Fine Arts Preview Day has been the final determining factor in the decision to attend Concordia for many fine arts students. "The Fine Arts Preview Day played a very important role for me when deciding where I wanted to attend college. Going to this event finalized my decision," said Katie Foggiano, sophomore. "Fine Arts Preview Day is equivalent to sports, in that it's kind of like a recruitment day for new students, but for the arts program."

This event occurs once every academic school year and has been very successful over the years. Professors of the arts look forward to this day every year and "enjoy hearing the auditions of the many talented students, both current and future."

Tuck's Tune: II by Bad Books

TUCKER THORSON
MUSIC GURU

II is the newest album by Bad Books, a super group that combines Manchester Orchestra with singer/songwriter Kevin Devine, that came out in late 2012. Both artists are under the record label "Favorite Gentlemen", so naturally over time they came together to create great music with one another. *II* is the second album by the super group, and it showed a lot of maturity in both sound and content when compared to the self-titled album they released in 2010.

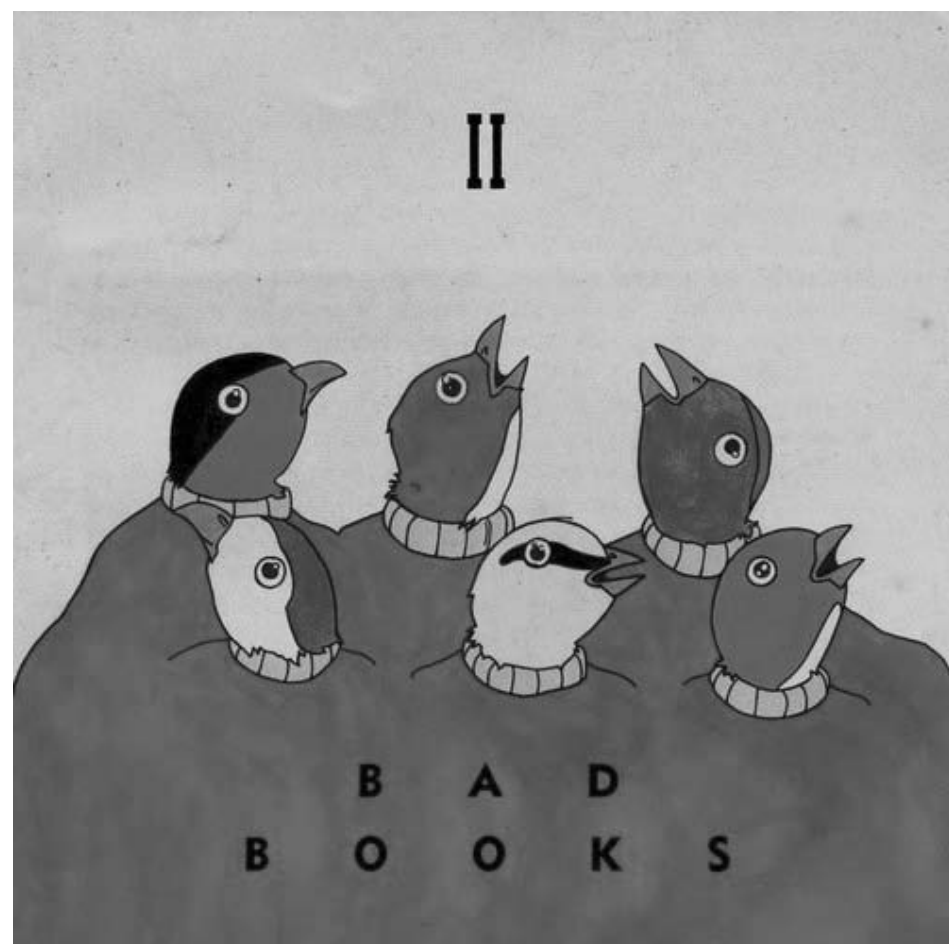
Though Bad Books contains both members of Manchester Orchestra and Kevin Devine, when combined, they give off a very unique sound that is unlike either of the bands individually. With this super group comes two different singers; each has his own songs on the album but also performs duets or backing vocals in each song. The duo of Andy Hull and Kevin Devine gives the album the versatility of two completely different sounds coming together to create a new one. At one end are the deeper, harsher sounding notes of Andy Hull, which become contrasted to the higher pitched, soft sounds of Kevin Devine.

The songs on this album range from fun, catchy

songs that make you sing along, to deeper, beautiful-sounding love songs, and essentially everything in between. My personal two favorite tracks on this album are *Pyotr* and *Forest Whitaker*. Both of these songs feature Andy Hull as the lead vocalist, but Kevin Devine does provide a few verses of his own in *Forest Whitaker*.

Pyotr is easily the most unconventional love song I have ever heard, telling the bizarre story of a Russian Queen, her husband, and her secret lover. The song showcases one of Andy Hull's best talents when it comes to his music, which is his ability to tell a story and paint a picture in your head. The layout of the song is very simple; it's just a finger picking pattern on the guitar and Andy's voice, nothing else.

Forest Whitaker was the single that came out before the album and has earned Bad Books plenty of airtime on SiriusXM's Alt-Nation. It's a very catchy song, with a whistling sequence that you'll catch yourself mimicking even when you're not listening to it. The song embraces a lot of synthesizer and keyboard, which is something uncommon for both artists individually. As a diehard Andy Hull fan, of course I'm going to recommend this album to you. But don't just take my word for it; go check out *II* by Bad Books for yourself.



Artist Spotlight: Katie Braun

Director of Concordia's next theatrical show

TREVER BENJAMIN
STAFF WRITER

Katie Braun, senior, will be directing Concordia Theatre's production of 'I Never Saw Another Butterfly,' opening March 15. This will be Braun's first directing experience in her 15-year musical theatre career and serve as her senior showcase. After completing applications and multiple interviews, Braun was selected to direct for her final project at Concordia. She credits her mentor Lori Siekmann, Department Chair of Theatre, with finding the initial play to use for the showcase. "I fell in love with the story after first read," said Braun. This love inspired her to turn the script into the next production at Concordia.

Braun believes this production will not only exemplify her skills in the theatre world but also serve as a great asset to put on a resume as she attempts to continue her directing career in graduate school. "There is always NYU when applying to graduate arts degrees, but UCI also has a great program that I would love to be a part of," said Braun. "I hope this show is just the beginning of my directing career in theatre arts."

The directing position in a show coordinates and manages all aspects of the choreography and set, as well as all major decisions on costumes, production, and interpretation of the original text. "The task is overwhelming but at the same time so gratifying as I manage and coordinate everything together with the people we have," said Braun.

Rehearsals are now in full swing, and Braun is

busy completing each task for a successful show. "Katie is such an organized director and very easy to work with," said Lauren Winnenberg, junior. "She is able to make us focus with the content of the show but balances that with keeping us light-hearted because of the emotional nature of the script."

The script is set in a dark place and pulls emotional responses from both cast and audience. "In 1942, 12-year-old Raja Englanderova was sent to Terezin, a Czechoslovakian ghetto that was a way-station for Jewish prisoners bound for Auschwitz. In those bleak surroundings she meets Irena Synkova, a teacher who is secretly conducting art and writing classes among the children," reads the Theatre Department's description of the play. "Raja gradually recognizes that Irena's classes are keeping the children alive and preserving their hope. This play is about hope in the face of intimidation and the power of education and art to bring out the best in all of us."

The production will consist of six performances of the show over two consecutive weekends, beginning on March 15. Concordia's black box theatre will be hosting the show, and all undergraduate students receive a free ticket. "I knew Katie had been a part of the Improv group here, and I loved that show. If this is free, why not go? I think it will be just as good," said Steven Hurst, junior.

For more information on Braun and the show, visit the theatre department website: <http://www.cui.edu/AcademicPrograms/Undergraduate/Theatre>, or stop by the theatre building and look for



Garry shows view from back of line

BREANNA LAFFERMAN
STAFF WRITER

Abstract artist, Mark Garry, presented his exhibition, "From the Back of the Line," last Wednesday to kick off his current exhibit in the John and Linda Friend Art Gallery, located in Grimm Hall.

"From the Back of the Line" was a concept Garry contemplated by imagining the perspective of lines from a different angle. "I was imagining a line or vector and thought to myself, 'What does the backside of the line look like?'" said Garry. By providing a twist on perspective, Garry created pieces using resin and paint to depict depth and shadow, as one would imagine seeing "from the back of the line."

Garry has been working as an illustrator, creative director, and artist for the past 20 years. Working as a graphic designer, he has been the creative specialist for many commercial pieces, including the World Cup, the Harry Potter franchise, and Billabong. Despite being drawn to the

tangibility of creating artwork, he did not begin making physical art until recently. "I didn't give myself permission to be an artist until I was in my 40's," stated Garry at the Artist Reception. "Being a graphic designer on the corporate level requires a great deal of compromise. Your own art shouldn't have to involve [compromise]."

Garry derives his paradigm for creating art through combining external interactions with the internal emotion. When materials and observation—the external—are combined with the soul and inspiration—the internal—that intersection of experience creates his art. "Seeing how materials work and engage, and how the materials and [inspiration] interact... intention is what painting is about," said Garry. "Non-objective painting inspired by materials is where inspiration derives."

Mark Garry's exhibition, "From the Back of the Line," will display his current abstract artwork until March 4 in the John and Linda Friend Art Gallery.

To serve and to learn: Costa Rica summer trip

ALEXANDRA CASTELLANOS
STAFF WRITER

This summer, Concordia is putting together a team of students to serve on a trip to Costa Rica. This marks the service-learning trip's third year; this time it will be led by Dr. John Norton, Professor of English. The annual trip is scheduled from June 1-16, during which time students have the opportunity to share God's love by participating in numerous service projects.

"Students can expect to learn during this service-learning trip about God's Kingdom, his hand in the lives of Costa Ricans, and their community," said Norton. The trip's overall goal is to deepen the relationship with the Costa Rican people in order to continue to help those in need there.

Concordia graduate Stephen Puls, '12, who attended the first Costa Rica service trip back in 2011, recommends that students apply for this trip because "it's a different way to view Costa Rica. Some people only go to vacation, but you see these people who have a serious need."

"There is something about serving that brings people closer to God. I want people to see God everywhere," said David Garcia, junior and a native of San Jose, Costa Rica.

Concordia will be partnering again this summer with Iglesia Pacto Nueva Esperanza, which has graciously offered to host the team throughout their stay.

Students will not only be heavily immersed in service projects for two weeks, but they will also have the opportunity to explore different parts of the country. They will mostly be visiting the Pacific

side of the country, including such places as San Jose, San Carlos, Guanacaste, and Punta Arenas, including visits to volcanic sites. There will also be a beach day, but it will have a service project element to it, as well as other fun local activities.

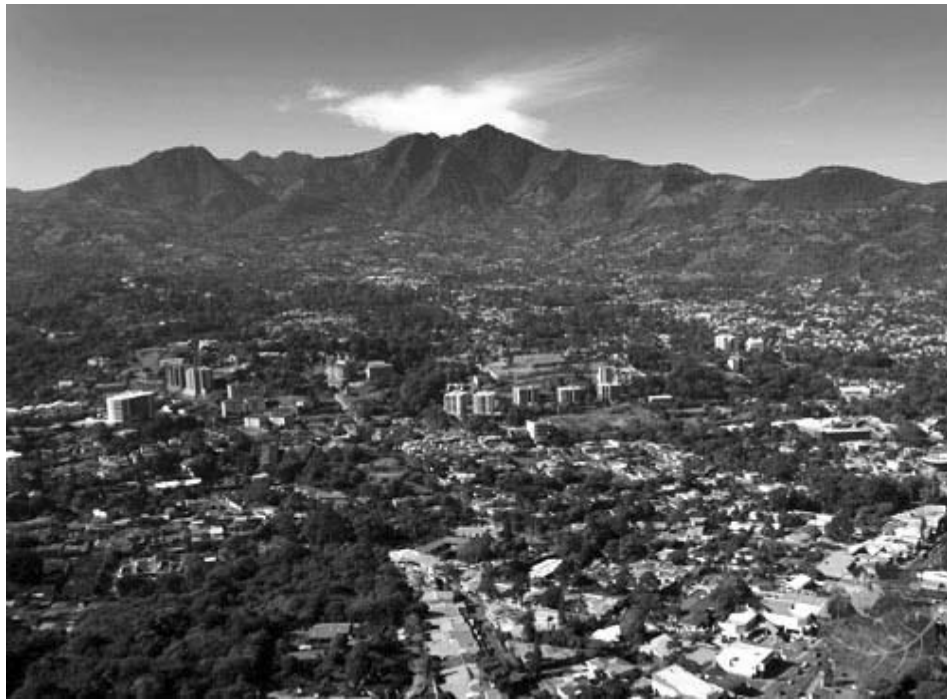
The trip will also consist of students working together with Nicaraguan refugees. Students will learn how the refugees are being treated, what the church is doing to support these refugees, and most importantly, focus on building relationships with the Nicaraguans.

"The people of Costa Rica were so gracious and thankful. It felt like we did so little but they treated us like we had completed the entire service project. We also went to one of their local church services and saw how passionate they were about their faith and sharing it with us," said Jenna Blankartz, junior. "Some of the local girls spent the night and we had a girl's night where we were able to make connections with these beautiful people."

"It was nice watching the students interact with the church, the local people, and having the freedom to talk about faith and Christ in general," said Larry Rice, Assistant Director of Residential Education, who led the trip last summer.

If you have the drive and willingness to serve and to learn with open eyes, it is not too late to apply for the Costa Rica service-learning trip. The application deadline has been extended to Feb. 22.

If you have any questions about this trip or are interested in other summer mission trips, please visit the Global Programs office located in Admin 120, the CSLD, or the Global Programs website at <http://www.cui.edu/academicprograms/global-programs>.



Faith, fun, and college credit

KRISTINA KRUG
STAFF WRITER

An opportunity to learn, live, and lead in Quito, Ecuador, is open for all students and takes place from June 1 to July 27. This is a program in which students can learn about business, learn Spanish, be a part of a different culture, and explore an exotic place.

Faith McKinney, Director of Global Programs, stated, "This is an opportunity for students to build their faith and study." This is the first Latin American program available for Concordia students to take part in. "This is a program that offers a valuable experience," said McKinney. "Students are able to grow in both their faith and their studies." Business majors are not the only ones who should partake; students in all majors would benefit from this program. Students will be taking courses by Dr. Steve Rundle and Dr. Lari Mobley, both of Biola University, and by the Andean Study Program.

During the Quito Summer Business Intensive program, the courses that students will be taking are Business as Mission, Global Marketing, and Spanish. Students will be placed in business internships so they can acquire job skills. The business internship gives students the opportunity to learn in a For-Profit or Non-Profit setting. Students will live with Ecuadorian families so they can immerse

themselves in the culture and language. They will also get to experience the Amazon Jungle and have the opportunity to visit the Galapagos Islands.

Jasmine Naziri, junior, said, "This is a great possible opportunity to expand my knowledge about another culture while visiting an exotic place."

Dr. Timothy Peters, Dean of School of Business and Professional Studies, encourages all students to take the opportunity to study abroad, whether in a Concordia faculty led course in Scotland or one of the many partner programs that Concordia works with, in places such as Australia, Spain, and Ireland.

Any students interested in studying abroad with another institution or an outside partner program need only to set it up. "Just make sure to check with the advising department with your academic advisor to make sure all the courses will transfer," said Peters. There are plenty of places for students to travel.

All students wanting to learn more about this exciting opportunity in Ecuador can watch a video at <http://vimeo.com/50346636> or visit the sponsoring program's website: <http://livingandlearninginternational.com/ecuadorbiz.php>. Students also can visit the Office of Global Programs in Admin. 120 to learn about this program, as well as all the other exciting Study Abroad programs.

Fallen Eagles will never be forgotten

BEN DULL
STAFF WRITER

The Christopher Dorner saga was believed to have come to a close this past week, after the ex-cop took four lives and injured three others. Dorner was barricaded inside a cabin in the Big Bear area on Feb. 12. The cabin reportedly caught fire after one gunshot was heard from inside. According to the New York Times, the body found inside the cabin has been positively identified as Dorner. The San Bernardino Sheriff's Department confirmed the body was Dorner's by means of dental records.

Dorner killed Monica Quan, '07, and Keith Lawrence, '08, outside their apartment on Feb. 3. The newly engaged couple had nothing but a bright future ahead. According to reports and a Manifesto Dorner wrote and posted online, the couple was targeted because Quan's father, a retired LAPD officer, represented Dorner at a disciplinary hearing. Dorner was fired by the LAPD because of an alleged incident in which he falsely reported another officer for violence against a mentally ill man during an arrest.

Quan and Lawrence met at Concordia, where the two played basketball. After graduating, Quan went on to get her Master's and was an assistant coach for the Eagles from 07-09. She then became an assistant coach at UC Fullerton and was in her second year there at the time of the shooting. Lawrence wanted to be a cop himself. He was working as a public safety officer at USC, with a career goal

of law enforcement.

After the shooting in Irvine, Dorner headed south and nearly got away to Mexico with a stolen boat. Some of Dorner's belongings were found shortly after near the San Diego airport. The fugitive then headed north to the Riverside area, where he shot and killed one police officer and injured another officer. The chase continued north to Big Bear, where his truck had been set on fire. After Dorner was identified on Tuesday, he eventually found himself with his back to a wall, stuck inside a cabin. That day, Dorner shot and killed another officer.

Reports following Dorner's alleged death indicated that, at one point, he had been hiding out in a cabin just down the road from the law enforcement's command center. As more details continue to come out, the public will be given clarity, and hopefully the victims' families may find closure amid this tragedy.

Whether one believes Dorner was wronged initially by the LAPD or not, he clearly should have found a better way to make his case. Those affected by Dorner were victims of a senseless string of crimes. The entire police force, whose duty it is to protect us, had the largest targets on their own backs. Those men and women deserve our undying praise for their service and courage.

The Concordia family, especially those who knew Quan and Lawrence personally, cannot help but grieve for their families. They certainly were not to blame for this man's mistake. Tragic events like this lead us to question God at times, but now is the time to draw ourselves even nearer to God while we continue to keep our loved ones close. While Keith and Monica are no longer with us, their outstanding character and positive influence on others will always be remembered.



Orange County's first Mardi Gras festival

CAITLYN DAVENPORT
STAFF WRITER

Orange County held its first Mardi Gras festival at the OC Fair Grounds from Feb. 8-10. The attractions at the festival included live music by The Zippers, Bostyx, and DBS. Throughout the festival, parades like "Pooch" and "Kiddos" were performed to show spirit. The event had a competition and judging for the best costumes as well. Each day was considered an all-day Masquerade party, so festival goers were encouraged to dress appropriately. Some chose to sport colorful face paint or beads galore, and purple, green, and gold could be seen everywhere.

The Mardi Gras celebrations mark the nearing of Lent and culminate on Fat Tuesday, which is the day before Ash Wednesday. Celebrations usually include lots of partying, eating, and colorful costumes.

According to Diana Hatfield, a member of the event staff, the turnout "was not as big as expected because it has been cold and raining. This is the first year of the festival, so many people probably didn't know about it."

The booths in the festival included Mardi Gras novelty booths and anything ranging from jam to psychics to tarot card readers. There were even multiple food booths, including Cajun eateries and bar booths.

At the Uncle Darrow's Cajun Creole Eatery stand, owners Ron Smith and Norwood J. Clark Jr. said, "We were honored to be asked to participate in the first Orange County Mardi Gras Festival." The first generation restaurant owners were personally asked to partake in the festival since their Cajun eatery has been a popular spot for traditional Cajun food in Marina del Rey. "Our restaurant is the American dream coming true, and we're be-

yond blessed to be asked to participate because it carries on the tradition that started our restaurant," they said.

In addition to the booths and food, there were bouncy houses and Marti Gras themed games for the kids. Stephanie Yamamoto, resident of Hermosa Beach, said, "The festival is pretty fun so far, but I thought there would be more people. All the Cajun food is so good; I'm glad I came all the way up here to celebrate Mardi Gras."

The first OC Mardi Gras was certainly a celebration for those who couldn't make it all the way to New Orleans, and organizers hope that next year, more people will make their way to the festival. For more information, visit www.mardigrasoc.com.



One of the decorative masks at the Marti Gras celebration.

The unrecognized power of religion

NATE MILES
STAFF WRITER

America is looking like a blood-splattered portrait of evil's definition. After the tragedies of the Aurora movie theatre shooting and Sandy Hook, the nation's people have grown weary. With the war in the Middle East heading towards an end, American citizens have shifted from the fear of a Taliban invasion to a fear of our own armed civilians. Though murder has always been existent, the recent draconian level of crimes has brought these cruel, deadly acts into the limelight. The violent epidemics of 2012 and the start of this year have brought the debate of gun-control to the forefront of public attention.

Don't worry—this is not another argument about gun-control. If anyone wants to hear opinions on the subject, just take a stroll through the internet. These recent acts of violence have led me to a deeper understanding. The truth of the matter is that governing laws can attempt to contain evil, but they will never erase it.

Shameful acts of injustice have been impossible to shake off for our country. As we have struggled to move past the Aurora and Sandy Hook incidents, we are now forced to fix our attention on the Christopher Dorner incident. The *Los Angeles Times* reported that the former cop became America's most wanted criminal after his suspected four murders, including the daughter of the LAPD official who fired him.

During the manhunt for this inexplicable outburst of malice from a mentally stable ex officer—some claim he had a reasonable cause to be upset—one can come to a conclusion that evil is indeed real. Many tend to use the issue of "evil" as a way to disprove God's existence, though to many, it does just the opposite. Despite the claims of skeptics, we as witnesses to these scenes of evil can see that God is the only answer. For the sake of this article, I will set aside my bias of the Christian

God being the one true God, and I will say that religion as a *whole* is the only cure to evil in this world. While skeptics tend to blame religion as the primary source of evil, I believe it is actually the only cure.

Laws fail to accomplish one thing at which religion consistently succeeds. Religion changes people. Speaking about "revelation", Evolutionary Biologist and atheist, Richard Dawkins, says, "It is one of the main reasons for believing the things that they do believe." But the theists *are* having revelations, are they not? What happens when people have religious revelations? They strive to become better people. Religion places a moral code in people's hearts that they are determined to live up to.

It's apparent that a truly evil person will never cease his or her repugnant behavior just because of the consequence of jail. The death penalty is not even much of a threat to criminals these days – but that's another issue.

There is a young man from my hometown in Oceanside, CA, who had his own revelation. He was a frustrated and rather dangerous kid who was into drugs and found himself in quarrels quite often. Prison time for murder was not an unlikely prediction of this teenager's future. However, despite the many issues going on in his life, a revelation of God's truth caused him to change completely. He grew up understanding that it was illegal to associate with narcotics and to kill a person, but those laws aren't what changed him. What changed him, like many people worldwide, was religion.

Laws and rules are indeed highly important for society to survive. It is healthy to exchange opinions about gun-control, but we must all be aware that breaking our backs over the argument of gun-control and other rules will never terminate evil. The only effective way to decrease the problem of evil is by keeping religion a viable option for the people of 2013. Atheism is on the rise in America, and we must remember the positive power that religion holds.

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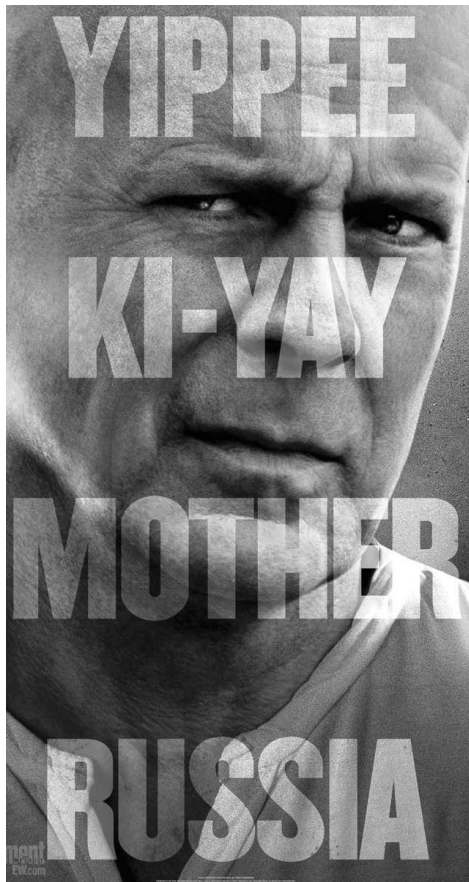
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Just Another Good Day to Die Hard



PAUL MENDEZ
STAFF WRITER

The most important detail about this review is whether or not you should watch *A Good Day to Die Hard*, so if you're not the reading type, then yes, you should see it.

Movies are different now. There are more movies coming out than people know what to do with. *A Good Day to Die Hard* is the fifth of a series that's lasted longer than Bruce Willis' hair. But I still love it. This particular installment had Officer John McClane taking his expert skills and knowledge to Russia in hopes of finding his son, Jack. This was no police matter for the old-timer, however; this little trip was on his own time. There's no problem with a vacation in Russia, but when you're John McClane, you have to expect something to be at least a bit out of place. It doesn't take McClane long to find his son or trouble, but amidst the set-up and introduction to the movie, there are some nicer moments.

The running time of the movie was a bit disappointing when compared to the others because this one seemed kind of short, but the basic point was made. Still, I think I enjoyed this one as it was because of its length—I did feel like I saw plenty of movie in that hour and a half. There are enough explosions and gun shots to take care of that.

Bruce Willis is especially fun to watch. By this point, he's getting more screen time as a cop simply because he does it so well. He's purely American and is someone everyone should love to see in movies. More so, Willis as John McClane is, I believe, the perfect blend of what it needs to be. At first the *Die Hard* films were more focused on the action side, but after the third there has been more humor added. Both Willis and McClane have aged beautifully and have remained consistent in their work.

There are a lot of sequels to and remakes of movies that probably shouldn't be made, but it's just a business like any other. Watching old actors like Willis perform as good, if not better, than they once did just shows that this is a working person's world. Action films are getting a little help in regaining the spotlight, and the "old guys" are leading the way back to explosions, one-liners, and bigger guns with more ammo.

I have no problem with movies like *Die Hard*, *The Last Stand*, or *Bullet to the Head* (which I haven't seen...yet). They don't have huge insight or a deeper meaning or a twist that will keep you thinking for months. What they do have is a lighter side in this often harsh world: an instance, or situation, where the good guy wins and no one cares how because it was exciting.

About Bulgogi time!

NICOLAS TOWNES
STAFF WRITER

Let's be honest, one can only take so much Caf food.... After a while, your body begins to crave something more exotic and new. So, you head out to the off-campus world only to be presented with the foodie's quandary: where should I eat?! I mean, you don't want to eat fast food anymore, but you also don't really want to donate your right arm and firstborn child at some expensive restaurant. At least that was what was going through my mind as I ventured into the unknown and dangerous world of Irvine – past the safety of the CUI gatehouse and into the jungle of bad drivers and vulture cops – with one of my good friends, Min.

I headed down Alton until it reached Jamboree, and I found myself at the Diamond Jamboree Plaza. All the restaurants looked mysterious and delicious. I saw an "open 24-hour" sign at one particular place called BCD Tofu House – a place serving Korean cuisine. Min swore that I would love it, so we entered. Best...Decision...Ever!

I ordered the Soon Tofu and Bulgogi Combo, which is a BBQ beef combo with a tofu soup that is God's way of hugging any weary diner's soul. It was so delicious, and not just because I was weaning off a steady diet of Caf food, but because it had flavor, was warm in that comfort food way, and made my taste buds dance.

As is the Korean tradition, you get unlimited side dishes for free and as much rice as you can eat. The servers were all nice, and did I mention the place is open 24-hours?! The lunchtime special costs about \$14.00, which isn't bad for all that you get, and dinner is \$2.00 more. I ate so much food, I

felt like going straight into a food coma. If you like playing Russian roulette with your food, just ask the waiters for something random on the menu. I guarantee you will love it.

The next time you feel like something other than the Caf, fast food, or Domino's Pizza, grab a friend, head down Alton, and try BCD Tofu House. It is also a perfect date location if you want something a little more unique and foreign.



Heard of an interesting place to eat?

Email the newspaper at newspaper@cui.edu with your ideas for the next food review!

Music lively in Irvine

MAGGIE DARBY
ARTS & REVIEWS EDITOR

Let's be honest. We don't attend a school in the liveliest of cities. Everything in Irvine is either closed by 10 p.m. or exceeds our poor college kid budget. This leaves a lot of Redbox and In-n-Out runs on Friday nights. If you find yourself relating to this lifestyle, this article is for you.

Entertainment starved and bored with messing with Rudy at Dominos (who makes every single pizza any of us ever order), I decided to do something about my situation. Music has always been a huge part of my life. Whether it's singing in the school choir, nerding out with my A cappella group, or harmonizing with my showerhead, I've always loved it. I took action to find live music venues that didn't cause my wallet to hate me afterwards.

After researching some of Orange County's most popular venues for concerts and shows, I

found that many of the restaurants, coffee shops, and bars in the area feature live music most weekends for free. Free is my favorite price.

The Anthill Pub & Grille was first on my list to check out. Located on UCI's campus, the little bar was a hot spot for students. The menu had some awesome looking burgers and carne asada fries (drool) for really reasonable prices. Every Friday night, this pub features live artists from the UCI community or local bands. The genres of music range from mellow to some rock and everywhere in between. It is free to go and sit in, but parking is \$10 if you don't have a UCI parking pass. I avoided this fee by parking at the Trader Joes on Campus Dr. and walking over the bridge.

Another unlikely live music venue is Lucille's Smokehouse and Bar-B-Que at the District. I checked out this restaurant on my way to Homecoming last weekend. We enjoyed amazing Jambalaya and had some sweet jazz playing in the back-

ground. Apparently the bar area of the restaurant has fantastic live artists every Friday night.

Downtown Disney, although a 20 minute drive from campus, is another place where a music junkie can get a fix for free. Parking is free for the first three hours and an additional two hours with validation from a restaurant or the movie theater. Every Friday night between 6-10:30 from Jan.-March, Disney features a band that plays swing music and has an open dance floor. Swing dancers from all over the county come to show off their moves and dance the night away. Beginners come from Irvine and stumble their way through beginning steps. Either way, it's a good time.

Whether you're looking for a hoppin' coffee shop (Paradise Perks Espresso & Tea Bar on Jeffrey) or Mariachi music (La Sirena Grill on Portola), Irvine has a surprising amount of live music options for the student on a budget.

Yoga

relieve stress

increase strength & flexibility

find balance

Every
Wednesday
in March
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sigma Square

Open to CUI students only, all levels welcome

Instructor: Margaret Gamboa MPH, RYT
Hosted by Fit Club

Wellness Center Health Promotion Specialist
Certified Yoga Teacher and Yoga Therapist

Yoga mats provided
for the first 15 students