

THE Concordia Courier

Envision. Explore. Exceed. Enjoy.

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Concordia University Irvine

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Dr. Rod Rosenblatt CUI Bono Professor of the Year

SARINA GRANT
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Dr. Rod Rosenblatt, Professor of Theology, was voted CUI Bono's Professor of the Year. Rosenblatt has been at Concordia since 1979, making this his 34th year of teaching.

"From my perspective, Dr. Rosenblatt is one of the best faculty members at Concordia. He's taught me a lot about theology, philosophy, the church, and the world in general," said Mark Duerr, senior teacher's assistant for Rosenblatt. "I think I could find you a large number of people who would say the same thing."

Rosenblatt is the sixth Professor of the Year, joining previous award winners Dr. Rod Soper, Department Chair and Professor of Biology; Dr. Jack Schultz, Professor of Anthropology; Dr. Korey Maas, former Professor of Theology; Dr. C.J. Armstrong, Professor of History and Theology; and Dr. Adam Francisco, Professor of History.

In addition to receiving a personal plaque, Rosenblatt will be honored in the main hallway of Alpha, which displays duplicate plaques of current and past winners. He will also be acknowledged in the Academic Achievement service on May 3 at 10:30 a.m. in the CU Center.

"The award is strictly academic," said Dr. Daniel van Voorhis, Department Chair and Professor of History and Political Thought. "It's not your favorite professor; it's not the coolest professor. It's the professor who embodies what a Concordia professor is: someone interested in the success of the student that is willing to try."

"There's more to this than his nature as a Theologian," added Duerr. "His nature as a thinker--the way he studies things and teaches things--is more telling to him as a person."

The process of determining the Professor of the Year began with two days of preliminary voting, where students wrote down the names of their choices for the top three best professors on campus. This year's voting diversity surpassed previous years, with over 50 different professors receiving votes.

Final voting gave students the chance to vote for one of the top five professors from the preliminary round. Along with Rosenblatt, the other professors nominated were Dr. Jacqueline Brown, Professor of History; Dr. Roberto Flores de Apodaca, Professor of Psychology; Dr. Mark Brighton, Professor of Biblical Languages and Literature; and van Voorhis.

"I think having a Professor of the Year award is very important," said Rafael Ramos, junior. "We have annual awards honoring students, and it's good that the professors get recognized for

"Dr. Rosenblatt is one of the best faculty members at Concordia.... I think I could find you a large number of people who would say the same thing."

their hard work too?"

"The Professor of the Year award signifies a connection between the professors and the students and tells the professor that 'what I'm doing does matter,'" said Duerr. "For students walking through Alpha, it gives students who might not have heard of that professor a good indication of who would be good to take a class with."

Before teaching at Concordia, Rosenblatt served as pastor in a couple different churches and as professor for a few colleges. He is also the co-host of "White Horse Inn," a national radio show that classifies itself as a "conversation for reformation."

Whether preaching the Gospel to thousands of listeners or teaching the theories of justification and sanctification to a class of 10, Rosenblatt's passion for teaching is obviously a gift from God.

Men's Volleyball national champs

DAETONA LAURENCE
SPORTS EDITOR

The men's volleyball team earned themselves their first national championship in program history on April 20 at the NAIA Men's Volleyball National Invitational. The Eagles defeated the Park University Pirates, who were previously reigning champs, in a 3-0 match. The team, in their first season in existence, ended with an overall record of 25-7.

After defeating Saint Ambrose University, Missouri Baptist University, and Warner University, the Eagles were confident moving into later games. "We have 100% confidence in our abilities, but we have to prepare and play like every game is our last," said Bradley Rostratter, junior.

The team stayed consistent on the floor and stuck to their game plan in order to achieve their ultimate goal of winning a national championship. However, the players emphasized that they are a cohesive unit not only when they play, but also off the court. "Our team is a family, and it doesn't matter who is on the court because we

all have the same goal," said Rostratter.

Although winning the pass and serve battle was an obstacle at times, the Eagles overcame the challenges in order to earn their well-deserved title of National Champions.

The team united both on and off the court in order to make an overall team effort and come out with a collective win. The support from the bench, fans at the game, and fans at home helped to provide the team with the motivation they needed to come out on top and execute with the skills and talent they have developed throughout the season.

The team boasts remarkable depth and experience on the roster and on the coaching staff. Mark Metrakos and Naseri Tumanuvao were both officially recognized for their skills on the court through their selection as the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Men's Volleyball All-Americans. Trevor Johnson, Head Coach, was also recognized as AVCA NAIA Men's National Coach of the Year.

Congratulations to the team, coaching staff, and the Concordia community, which is home to yet another National Championship team.



Chong takes home the gold

HALEY JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

Grace Chong, sophomore, won the tier one level of the President's Academic Showcase of Undergraduate Research.

Chong also succeeded in last year's Presidential Showcase when she won tier two, allowing her to participate in tier one this year, which is typically reserved for upperclassmen.

"This year, the competition was much greater, and the quality of work demanded was increased. Even if it was a second time, it felt like a first time," said Chong.

This project was a continuation of Chong's Academic Showcase winning project last year, titled "Solar Energy Storage II: Photoactivity of Earth-Abundant Transition Metal Oxides Using the Solar Energy Activity Lab with Dry Electrode Contacts," mentored by Dr. John Kenney, III, Professor of Chemistry and Physics.

"Looking back at it, I'm very thankful that my faculty mentor encouraged me to compete this year, since I was originally very nervous to compete in tier one as a sophomore," said Chong.

Chong beat out a tough field of competitors consisting of second place finisher Miseker Abate, senior, and Joseph Laughon, senior, who earned third place. Honorable Mention awards were presented to Rebecca (Rierson) Lott, junior, and seniors Megan Greidanus and Kirstin Tuccinardi.

The tier two winner was Roberto Flores de Apodaca, freshman, with his project about "Reforming the Electoral College," mentored by

Dr. Melinda Schulteis, Professor of Mathematics. Flores de Apodaca has a passion for politics which influenced his showcase topic. "I thought it would be a topic that people would be interested in because we just had an election year," said Flores de Apodaca.

Second place for tier two went to freshman Karen Gurske, mentored by Sherilyn Schneekluth, Professor of English and Writing. Gurske is studying to be an elementary school teacher, and her project was called, "Turning the Page on Ineffective Reading Instruction: Look and Say Versus Phonics."

"Write something that you are excited about," Gurske said. "It is hard, but if you love what you are doing it is enjoyable." Third went to Allistair Galindo, sophomore. The best poster award was given to junior Paige Finley.

Dr. James Bachman, Professor of Philosophy and Ethics, was a judge for this year's poster session, as well as a supporter of the Academic Showcase event. "The University wants to encourage students to look more deeply into the subject areas that they may go on in, either in their work or for their graduate studies," said Bachman. Students were able to present their projects using posters as visuals. "There were a number of pretty impressive presentations that I looked at," he added.

Students will begin preparing for next year's Showcase as early as this summer. Flores de Apodaca has some advice for anyone considering submitting a project for next year's competition. "Work on it over the summer. The more research you have the better. It is unexpected where your research might take you."



A surprising kind of love

Farewell Editorial from Editor-in-Chief, Emily Geske

When I look back at my four years at Concordia, I cannot help but realize how incredibly blessed I have been. Some ways are obvious, but I started thinking about how God chooses to bless us in more roundabout, even concealed, ways.

"And we know that in all things, God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Challenging classes. On more than one occasion, I believe I have gone legitimately insane for a brief period of time when trying to study for an exam or working to finish a paper barely before it's due. I know probably all of you have been in the same boat by the number of dazed and weary faces I've seen around campus. But



The Courier staff would like to say a fond farewell to Emily and wishes her the best in her future endeavors.

despite the stress that these classes inflict, I have come to realize what a blessing it is that I have learned more than I ever thought possible. Mainly, that's due to tough professors forcing me to learn about topics I had never even heard of, taking more time than I deserved to make sure I understood.

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize."

Relationships. Whether with family, friends, or significant others, relationships have been the most mentally and emotionally draining factors in my life. Fortunately, I have been blessed with a family that is extremely supportive and loving. I have been able to rely heavily on them during the toughest times in my life. I know what it's like to be betrayed by a friend, to watch strong friendships fade over time, to feel completely heart-broken. At the time, all of these events seemed awful, but in retrospect, it's almost comical how God has used them to provide me with friendships that are even sturdier and a feeling of independence that frees me to do literally anything I can dream up. God has made it obvious that he can turn pain into beautiful opportunities.

"We also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us."

Tragedies. Between illnesses, injuries, and death, I've seen a lot of people I care about subjected to tough circumstances. I hate to see those whom I love in pain, and I abhor mourning myself. It's a bit more difficult to see the blessings in something like death. For me, it has

always brought those affected closer, a reminder of the importance of fellowship in each of our lives. I try to remember that death is just the last earthly obstacle standing between heaven and us; one day, we will all be rejoicing together for eternity!

"Yea even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me."

The future. Every time I get the question, "So what are you doing after college?" I cringe, because honestly, I have no clue. It can be a bit terrifying. But what I have to keep reminding myself is that the future is really a blessing with tons of untapped potential that God has laid out for me, for each of us. We have all been blessed by our time at Concordia, whether we want to admit it or not. Some of us will be coming back after summer; some of us may never set foot on campus again after our last final. Either way, this place has shaped us into who we are at this moment. The future is not something to fear, but to enjoy.

"There is surely a future hope for you, and your hope will not be cut off."

This past year, I've been blessed with an awesome newspaper staff. They have helped me with a good chunk of the work that can make putting out a newspaper stressful, and they have been flexible with last minute changes and requests. I am proud to pass on the tradition that has become *The Courier* to next year's Editor-in-Chief, Alicia Harger, as well as her staff of Sarina Grant, Daetona Laurence, Taylor Bundy, and Margaret Langdon. May God bless you in your time and work as much as He's blessed me.

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Talkin' about our generation

NATE MILES
STAFF WRITER

It is no secret that the late 80's-early 90's babies have been raised in the most tech-savvy culture in American history. We have been witnesses to the peak of racial diversity, feminine power, and religious tolerance. We are also on the brink of a gay rights movement that will transform history forever.

As a half black-half white man, I am the human image of America's goal for racial democracy. I have never been subjected to blatant racism, and though that may be an environmental factor, the fact that it's the year 2013 plays a deliberate role as well. I am profoundly in awe of my generation's willingness to reach the epitome of human equality. If it weren't for my generation, saying "black president" would carry no weight. It would sound like a comedy sketch on BET. However, we turned something that was unlikely 20 years ago into history. Though I love the character of our generation, I fear that we have many shortcomings as well.

I am on a mission to discover the true face of our generation. We are Generation Y—a group that is viewed as anything from confident overachievers to spoiled brats who lack a proper American work-ethic. *About.com* says that Generation Y is "tech-savvy, family-centric, achievement-oriented, team-oriented, and attention-craving". While that is a very courteous description, Penelope Trunk's description is slightly less flattering. In Trunk's online blog, she says, "Generation Y is sunny, upbeat, and non-confrontational. Which means that Generation Z, raised by pragmatic and confrontational Gen X parents, will think Gen Y are lame. Weak. Delusional!"

Initially, when I read Trunk's blog I was offended and completely against this notion. I am the exact opposite of all the alleged characteristics of Gen Y. However, after I contemplated the personalities and actions of the majority of my peers, I realized that these descriptions are unfortunately fairly accurate. With an exception of a few, I have not come across many visionaries my age who are determined to improve the world. Daily conversations with my peers result in nothing but debates on whether LeBron is better than Kobe or how hot Emma Stone is. Rarely does my generation discuss politics, science, or religion. There is a discernible lack of ambition within my generation. We survive off of loans and the success of our parents. We are slaves to the idea that we are special and "Daddy's princess" or "Mama's king". However, when reality strikes us, we quickly recognize that we are no more important than any of the other six billion souls in the world.

This realization can offer a bit of shock and bewilderment to the world view of a naïve 20-year-old. In the year 2013, I sense that my peers are trapped in the playground of Steve Jobs and Mark Zuckerberg. As we are falling in love with the inventive ideas of our generation's icons, we are missing opportunities to advance this country with our own creativity. Every human being is creative; we just have unique ways of expressing it. Though America has its faults, this is still the Land of Opportunity. Since we are privileged to be raised in this environment, it is our duty to grasp our creativity and prepare our nation for lift-off. Why should we settle? I have a vision of Generation Y leading America to its prime state—but I cannot be the only one with this dream.

How humiliating would it be if our generation brings this beautiful nation down a notch or two, leaving an opportunity for Generation Z to come to the rescue? I fear for the day that Gen-Y and Gen-X are forced to sit back and witness Gen-Z pull the nation out of its despair. I urge my generation to mature when it comes to leadership and decide where we will take our nation.

The name "Generation Y" or the "Millennials" is rather arid. I will take this opportunity to grant us a more definitive name. Like a rocket ship blasting off into unmarked territory, we are Generation Lift-Off.

Place a classified ad!

- Selling a book?
- Need a job?
- Have a cool idea?

Email newspaper@cui.edu to have an ad placed in the next issue.



Have a happy summer, from the Courier staff!

THE Concordia Courier

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CUI reigning two-time LCEF winners

JADE REED
STAFF WRITER

Concordia's team of four took first place in the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) marketing and advertising competition held on April 12. This competition took place at the Lutheran Missouri Synod International Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

According to the LCEF press release, "The competition is an integral part of the students' class grades, as they learn from the experience through the task as well as receiving judges' feedback and videos of their presentations." This competition also awarded cash prizes ranging from \$5,000 for first-place to \$750 for participating.

Each team had to create a 20-minute presentation of their plans, as well as participate in a 10-minute question-and-answer session with judges. "This year's competition was heavier than last year," said Carolyn Shiery, Assistant Professor of Marketing. "It was based on overall performance."

Concordia's team consisted of four seniors: Meghan Jones, Melissa Merrill, Angelina Ortiz, and Caitlin Zank. Shiery accompanied the team, providing guidance and mentoring. "Having Professor Shiery as a mentor was amazing," said

Merrill. "I wouldn't have done this with anyone else."

According to Shiery, these four students were picked to be a part of the team because of their work ethic. The team came up with a creative financial plan that had the tagline, "Making a Difference through Stewardship."

The ground work for the competition started in December with the team's first meeting. "The preparation process was crazy," said Shiery. The 32-page plan was due on April 4, comprising half the team's score. The group left for the competition on April 11 and presented the following day.

Concordia Irvine's LCEF team competed against teams from the nation-wide community of Concordias. Each team worked all semester, researching and creating a marketing campaign that is meant to gain the attention of new LCEF investors. "We worked on this project every chance we were available," said Ortiz. "The only breathing room we had was when the presentation was over, and that's the reason why we won."

Winning the LCEF advertising and marketing competition two years in a row helps strengthen the reputation of Concordia Irvine amongst others in the Concordia system.

"This accomplishment is another validation

by the business community that our students are receiving and able to deploy the tools, techniques and behaviors they need to be successful in the workplace," said George W. Wright, Assistant Dean, School of Business and Professional Studies. "The fact that Concordia University Irvine has won it two years in a row speaks volumes about not just Professor Shiery and the

School of Business faculty, but about the overall efforts of all CUI faculty, staff and leadership that comprise the 'Concordia Irvine Experience.'"

The LCEF team would like to thank all those who helped by taking their survey, because without their help, the project would not have been as successful.



Concordia Irvine's LCEF team has time for a quick photo-op now that their project is finally finished!

Law and Order: CUI *Cyber-bullying and Suicides*

NICOLAS TOWNES
STAFF WRITER

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), there is a disease which kills more people in the US than firearms, suffocation, and poisoning combined; this silent killer is suicide. In 2012, suicides accounted for over 38,000 deaths in the US. The CDC also estimates that for every suicide completed, over 100 are attempted. This has made it the 10th leading cause of death in American adults. Suicides on college campuses are symptoms of deeper issues, like depression, and often can be prevented. However, there is a new trigger for suicides that is going largely overlooked on campuses: cyber-bullying. While there has been lots of research done on causes of suicides, college campuses are not getting the attention they deserve.

"We got into looking at college students because there are studies on elementary, junior high, high school, and the workplace," said Christine MacDonald, Professor of Educational and School Psychology at Indiana State University, in a university news release. "There's nothing on colleges."

MacDonald and her colleagues found that 15% of college students in their study reported being bullied, and nearly 22% reported being cyber-bullied in an article released on US News. The connection between cyber-bullying and suicides cannot be overstated. According to a study done by Yale University, bully victims are between two to nine times more likely to consider suicide than non-victims.

Merriam-Webster defines cyber-bullying as "the electronic posting of mean-spirited messages about a person (as a student) of-

ten done anonymously." With the emergence of anonymous social media pages like CUI Missed Connections and CUI Confessions, there is an increasing concern that Concordia may be more susceptible to cyber-bullying and suicides. However, cyber-bullying doesn't stop there. Any message sent via an electronic medium—text messages, emails, social media, etc.—that is mean-spirited can be considered cyber-bullying. Computer-mediated communication makes it easier for people to be degrading towards others as compared to in person; this makes cyber-bullies more vicious and their effects more acute.

The CDC estimates that victims are most likely to experience cyber-bullying from individuals they know. The best way to combat suicides on campus is to watch how you talk to others. One doesn't necessarily have to have malicious intent in order to cyber-bully. Reread messages before sending them and ask how you would feel if that was sent to you. Another suggestion by the CDC is to check up on friends often. Ask how they are feeling and encourage them to seek help, like going to Concordia's Wellness Center, if they are feeling depressed.

There is a stigma and social taboo against seeking help for depression, but this increases the likelihood of suicides and suicide attempts. Never feel ashamed to ask for help. If you are feeling scared, sad, or lonely, seek help. While there may be an increasing amount of suicides and cyber-bullying on campuses, there are also many ways to get help. If you don't feel comfortable talking to friends, go to your Resident Assistant (RA), professor, wellness counselor, or campus pastor. Together, we can stop the silent killer.



Healthcare management graduates first cohort

KRISTINA KRUG
STAFF WRITER

The Healthcare Management Program will be graduating its first class this summer. The cohort consists of 11 students who have completed the two-year program that educates students for professional positions. It aims to enhance the operational efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare while improving the delivery of healthcare services.

In addition to learning the material, students applied what they learned by taking part in conferences, internships, and joining professional memberships. "This program prepares you for what's next better than a traditional undergraduate degree," said Beth Lonardelli, sophomore. Students take one class at a time for six weeks. The program is accelerated and organized in a specific sequence to help students better grasp what is being taught.

There are 17 required courses in the program that students take while participating in clinical rotations at Hoag or Children's Hospital of Orange County. The students also engage themselves in the community to help acquire necessary field experience. At the end of the program, graduates will have a complete portfolio including a biography, course assessments, and a final paper to present to future employers.

"This program is about getting the experience, not just the degree," said Dr. Stephen Du-

arte, Academic Program Director of Healthcare Management. "We are here to help students get to where they want to be." Faculty and staff are committed 100% to helping the students succeed.

The Bachelor of Science degree in healthcare management offers a path for professional advancement as well as an opportunity to improve the lives of others. According to www.bls.gov, a Bachelor's in healthcare management has the lowest unemployment rate of any Bachelors degrees and even some Masters degrees. This industry is projected to grow 22% over the next five years. The average salary for a manager with a degree in healthcare management is \$85,000.

"When I first heard of a healthcare program, I thought about doctors and nurses. I didn't realize you can still be a part of the Healthcare industry without majoring in a science discipline," said Rachel Gray, sophomore. "People like me, who are advocates of good health but are not strong in the science classes, might find the management program a better fit."

Graduates with a Bachelor's in Healthcare Management are in demand by hospitals, nursing and long-term care facilities, public health and mental healthcare organizations, and health insurance companies.

Students wanting to learn more about the Healthcare Management program are encouraged to contact Duarte at stephen.duarte@cui.edu.



Eagles softball continues to soar

BEN DULL
STAFF WRITER

After wrapping up the regular season with a sweep of Arizona Christian on Senior Day this past week, the Eagles finished the regular season with a record of 42-3. The Eagles throttled GSAC competition, outscoring their opponents 157-9 in 16 conference games.

Opposing teams only managed to score a combined 42 runs this season. A Concordia player was named the GSAC Player of the Week every week but one. Before a 2-1 loss to Simpson University at the end of March, the softball team had put together a 29-game winning streak spanning nearly two months.

Although the softball team was only outscored by four runs combined in their three losses, the players learned from their two early losses and remained humble and focused. "After we got back from the Simpson Tournament in Redding, we all got a fire in us. We lost to a team we shouldn't have lost to, and that team kind of rubbed it in our faces," said Bree Simpson, senior. "When we got back from the tournament, we were a different team and we just wanted to make sure that when other teams played against us, they remember us."

The team learned from its third loss of the season to Simpson in March and used their knowledge in future games. "I think the game that set the tone for our success as a team this year would have to be the Simpson game. Even though we lost the first game, it made us as a team realize that any team can beat anyone on any given day," said Megan Feuerstein, freshman. "We never wanted to feel a loss again. We have so much potential, and there's not one person who does all the work. Every game and every out is always a team effort."

The team realizes that every day of the season is valuable. "Every game this team succeeds in something different, whether it's bunting, hitting harder, or doing different things on defense," said Annette Merjano, junior.

The 40-win team has been blessed with remarkable talent, determination, and leadership. Merjano and her teammates had positive remarks and praise for senior Shainna Groom. "I truly see her as a leader. She has done everything for this team on and off the field," said Merjano. "She leads us to a tee at practice and in games."

She helps everyone out by showing by example."

"She brings this team closer when we are struggling. She took everyone under her wing and showed us the way to success," added Feuerstein. "She has done a great job in the field and in her at bats. I have also never seen someone work so hard at everything she does."

Merjano is also thankful for Jenna Jorgenson, another senior leader. "She moved positions this year from second base to shortstop and has done a fantastic job directing the infield," said Merjano. "She always picks up players when they're down. She never lets anyone hang their head on the field. JJ is just an all-around great athlete with a drive to get better every day."

While some fantastic individual contribu-

tions have been crucial to the team, players are quick to point out that every player on the roster has been a key to this season's success. Simpson and the rest of the team are very proud of the newcomers and their ability to contribute, especially the freshmen.

The team's record and overall success has been and will continue to be a collective effort throughout the season. "I feel that everyone has stepped up on this team when needed to help us win. We are all in this together, and it really shows," said Feuerstein.

The Eagles now must prepare for the Unaffiliated Group Tournament featuring the GSAC and California Pacific Conference, which will be held Thurs.-Sat. on the Eagles' field.



Both tennis teams head to Nationals

LAUREN HENDRIX
STAFF WRITER

The men's and women's tennis teams will compete in the NAIA National Championships to finish off their seasons in Mobile, AL, on May 14-18. Both teams have battled back after difficult starts to their seasons. Their consistent hard work has earned the men a #10 rank with a 11-12 record, while the women hold a rank of #9 with a 9-11 record.

Although both teams have faced struggles throughout the season, they are striving to end the rest of their games strong. "We had a rough season this year in general. We lost two players during the semester and had to fight with injuries," said Christian Wickenhauser, sophomore. "It was a tough season with some bad losses, but we are trying to do as good as possible at nationals."

The men and women both competed at the conference tournament at Indian Wells Tennis Garden on April 11. The third seed men's team was defeated by the #5 ranked Westmont Warriors in the semifinals of the tournament. The women's team, seeded second, was upset by the #12 ranked Vanguard Lions. Although the teams have faced difficulties, they continue to prepare for the close of the season. The teams have both adapted to their line-ups and know their strengths and weaknesses.

One of the short term goals for both Eagles' teams is to successfully beat Westmont University. "Our matches against Westmont were extremely long and tiresome days," said Megan Illsley, junior. "However, it did make us push even harder." Competing against Westmont may be just the motivation that both teams needed. "We would like to beat Westmont. They are actually ranked in front of us, and we have lost to them even though we definitely do have the potential to beat them," said Wickenhauser.

The men's team took on Claremont Mudd last Friday, losing 1-8. The following weeks will consist of continued practice and preparation for the NAIA National Championships. Illsley was confident in saying that she and her fellow Eagles have one goal in mind: "to compete the best that we possibly can at Nationals and give our 100% efforts."

SportsLine

Kyle Borcharding

The Borcharding Top 10

In order to become a true sports writer, it seems as if it's a requirement to have a top ten list. When it comes to top lists, there are a number of different routes to take: top 10 teams, events, players, plays, and even reasons you shouldn't watch the NFL combine (or perhaps that's just me). For the final issue of the Courier this year, I'm going to jump into the top 10 discussions. There are a lot of athletes out there who deserve more recognition than they are currently receiving. These are my top 10 favorite athletes in professional sports, and after you finishing reading this list, they might be yours too.

10. Brodie Smith, Ultimate Frisbee: Windy City Wildfire. The sensational, dynamic ultimate frisbee player has taken the AUDL (American Ultimate Disc League) by storm in its inaugural season.

9. George Hill, Point Guard: Indiana Pacers. Paul George has been the face of the Pacers this season without Danny Granger. However, Indiana would not be in their current position vying with the Heat and Knicks for the top spot in the East without Hill's extraordinary, under-the-radar performance this year.

8. Mardy Fish, USA, Tennis: Men's Singles. I'd say it's time the United States got back in the game when it comes to tennis. Andy Roddick's monster serves will evidently not be enough to carry him to a Major championship. Fish, however, continues to improve and has shown great promise, working his way into the top 10 last year.

7. Aroldis Chapman, Closing Pitcher: Cincinnati Reds. Chapman epitomizes the term "lights out" for closers. He averages over two strikeouts per inning and rarely yields a hit at

all. The left-hander has thrown baseball's fastest recorded pitch at 107 mph and shows no signs of slowing up this season.

6. Peyton Manning, Quarterback: Denver Broncos. Manning is a perennial MVP candidate. He showed last season that he hasn't lost a step, even after missing an entire season to injury--not to mention the number of fantastic commercials he has starred in.

5. Ersan Ilyasova, Power Forward: Milwaukee Bucks. He's becoming known for his slow starts to NBA seasons, but he seems to turn it on around February. A prolific shooter and rebounder, Ilyasova has averaged nearly 22 points and 16 rebounds per game during some months. It's tough to find a better fantasy basketball contributor.

4. Ken and Tim Bogle, Ultimate Frisbee: Concordia University Irvine. The Bogle twins have Boggled the minds of many a frisbee player at CUI over the last several years. Their raw talent and knowledge of the game has them destined for greatness—at least in some field.

3. The Texas Rangers. It's impossible to make this list without choosing every player from the best franchise in professional sports. Think I'm biased? Too bad! It's my top 10 list, after all.

2. Zack Cozart, Shortstop: Cincinnati Reds. The young SS for Cincinnati has turned many heads with his bat. Hitting for power, average, and speed is something you don't often see in a shortstop. What's even more impressive is his ability in the field, where he shows some of the best range of any shortstop in the MLB.

1. Ian Kinsler, Second Base: Texas Rangers. He does it all. Kinsler can hit 30-40 home runs in a season and steal just as many bases. His base-running ability makes him a terror on the bases for the entire defense. Most importantly, he wears his baseball socks the old school way, where the socks are up to his knees and he tucks his pant legs into them. Enough said.

Lacrosse coach makes an impact

JULIEN SPERLING
STAFF WRITER

Will McMinn, Men's Lacrosse Coach, has continued to set a good example for his players as he coaches them through a successful season, looking to claim their first league title and national title.

McMinn began coaching at Concordia after five years of success building high school mentoring programs called "IMPACT" all over the Los Angeles area. Now he has turned to different aspirations revolving around the Eagles. "We really have some lofty goals," McMinn said. "We call them 'B-hags.' Big, hairy, audacious goals. It's working out well this year."

Since the lacrosse team's inception in '09, it has continued to steadily improve. Last year, the Eagles beat conference heavyweight and rival Cal State-Fullerton in the regular season, only to fall to the Titans in the Southwestern Lacrosse Conference (SLC) tournament, barely missing out on a trip to nationals.

McMinn believes the team's success is due to recruiting players who may not be the most coveted but are the most well-rounded. "A lot of it has to do with a higher percentage of guys who can really play," said Coach McMinn. "We get a few more really good players to add to mix and they get a bit better at working the system we have in place. This year in particular, we have both good players and strong junior and senior leaders that make a difference."

In McMinn's first year, the team ended with a 1-9 record with one player named to the SLC All-Conference. The following year, McMinn's team finished with a record of 10-4 with an SLC semi-final appearance, making the top 50 power rankings.

McMinn was named SLC Coach of the Year in 2010, accompanied by one player who was named MCLA All-American. Seven other Eagles were also named SLC All-Conference.

In 2011, the lacrosse team finished 13-3 with

a SLC finals appearance and attained a national ranking of #15 at the DII level. The Eagles had three All-Americans, one player who achieved MCLA-Scholar Athlete, and seven named to the SLC All-Conference.

Last season was by far the best for the Eagles, finishing with a 14-5 record, an SCL finals appearance, and another power ranking of #15 in DII. This was the first time the team made an appearance at the National Championship tournament. McMinn was named MCLA DII Coach of the Year, as well as SLC DII Coach of the Year. Two players accompanied him with honors on the MCLA All-American, three Eagles were named MCLA Scholar Athletes, and eight other Eagles were SLC All-Conference.

The Eagles and their coach hope to maintain this trend of increasing success at the end of this season, getting off to a good start with a 20-3 win over Biola on Saturday. McMinn and the team begin their post-season push on April 27 in their SLC First Round match.



Gala of the Stars bound to shine brightly

MALAIIKA BIGIRUMWAMI
STAFF WRITER

The 11th annual Gala of the Stars event will take place May 11 to raise money to benefit the student scholarship fund. The Gala also functions as a platform to present the Lifetime Achievement Award and showcase the musical and theatrical talent of Concordia students. The event will include silent and live auctions.

This black-tie event, which is the largest fundraiser for student aid, hosts faculty, donors, and friends of Concordia. Last year was a record year, raising \$500,000 from the 500-person crowd.

"The event is ultimately for the students," said LaVeda Carter, Executive Director of Annual Giving and Special Events. A silent auction will start out the evening with over 130 items, including the NAIA National Championship winning volleyball signed by the girl's volleyball team. Bon Appetit will then serve a gourmet dinner along with hors d'oeuvres, distributed to the guests by the softball team.

The Lifetime Achievement Award consistently honors figures in society who have made a positive impact while exuding Christian values. This year is no exception; the award will be presented to Bart Starr, former Green Bay Packer's quarterback. The award not only highlights his achievements and awards within the NFL but his service to his community as well. He is a role model to many because he founded the Rawhide Boys Ranch in Wisconsin, which provides homes and academic and vocational

training for boys aged 8-17 who have been referred by juvenile courts.

Due to family health issues, Starr is unable to travel to California. President Krueger will present the award to him at his home in Alabama, and a video of the presentation will be shown to the Gala audience. "Giving this award to a Packer's coach is a pretty big deal since I used to coach high school football in Wisconsin," said Curt Cattau, Professor of Exercise and Sport Science, who has attended the Gala since he began teaching at Concordia.

The Gala brings supporters of Concordia together from all over the community, welcoming many people to the campus. "It's nice because I get the chance to see people I don't see as often, as well as meet many people who are supporters of Concordia," added Cattau.

A highlight of the event every year is the showcase of Concordia's music and theatre talent. Under the leadership of Steve Young, Director of Worship Arts, the music finale will feature talented Concordia performers of the past and present responding to the theme "My Story." The performance will feature video clips and upbeat contemporary music, while artist, Tom Clark, will be on stage painting a story on canvas simultaneously. "It's going to be fairly different in a really cool way," said Young. "All the performers are really excited."

A ticket to this event will cost \$150; however, many volunteers are needed to run such an important event. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Grace Saldana at grace.saldana@cu.edu.

Looseleaf Theatre Company just "As You Like It"

ALEXANDRA CASTELLANOS
STAFF WRITER

The Looseleaf Theatre Company will be returning this summer under the direction of Professor Tony Vezner to perform William Shakespeare's "As You Like It" at the Nelson Outdoor Amphitheater located on campus.

According to the theater department's website, the Looseleaf Theater Company is a "professional theatre ensemble that gives students internship opportunities in acting, design, and tech where they can perform and learn alongside working professionals in a summer stock environment."

Vezner believes this collaboration is an opportunity for Concordia theater students to interact with local professionals, currently active in the industry. "It's a valuable experience to go on students' résumés," he said.

Two current students have major roles this year, playing lords and ladies, along with serving as understudies for some of the leading roles. This provides the students with a hands-on learning experience interacting with professional actors.

Current students and professional actors are not the only ones involved in the production. Audience members can expect to see some familiar faces from past theater productions as

well. "We had a number of theater alumni return last year and this year as well, which is always very exciting," said Vezner.

Nick Scutti, junior Assistant Director, has enjoyed working alongside professionals and has had an even greater experience learning to be a good director from Professor Vezner. The cast is comprised of 20 members who hope to continue with the company.

"I have loved working with Tony—that's why I came back," said Brandon Kasper, actor. "Tony makes things fun. He gives us the freedom we need to allow for a much more enjoyable experience, even though we are working."

Kasper is a returning professional actor who was a part of the Company's inaugural production last year, where they performed Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night." The company's rehearsals are in full swing, with practices every day from 7-10:30 p.m.

This year's rendition of "As You Like It" is based on the Shakespearean comedy and love story, but it takes place in the 1960s, starring the daughter who is banished after falling in love with a disinherited man. The characters live in exile and find refuge in the Forest of Arden, where they all adopt a hippie-lifestyle.

"The story is filled with a fresh culture that I think audiences will enjoy on a summer night under the stars," said Alastair Murden, actor.

Vezner supports the Looseleaf Theater Company's goal of having fun and interacting with audience members. Last year, the company had five performances that did exceedingly well, attracting close to 1400 people, most of whom had never been on campus before.

Audience members brought family, friends, picnic blankets, and lounge chairs to enjoy the show. The Company also encourages audiences to take photos throughout the show; they will even have a live Twitter feed for audiences to tweet their feedback about the performance.

Trenton Semple, junior, believes audiences should come and watch "As You Like It" because "it's fun, free, and professional theater right on campus."

"As You Like It" will debut on May 25 and will run the 26-27, concluding the weekend of June 1-2. For more information regarding future theater productions, contact Vezner in Library Arts 121 or visit the website at <http://www.cui.edu/AcademicPrograms/Undergraduate/Theatre>.



Hipster Shakespeare, dropping rhymes before it was cool.

Artist Spotlight: Kimber Samaniego

A moment in time

I started my photography journey when I was just in junior high. I had this--what I thought was cool at the time--hot pink camera. I liked taking pictures of pretty much everything; being able to look back on those moments on the camera was my favorite. I liked observing the moments I captured of my family, friends, and landscapes, as well as focusing in on objects or people in the background who had no idea they were captured in someone else's moment in time. It was and still is a simple yet significant reason why I like capturing moments. I lost my awesome neon pink camera somehow, and I stopped taking pictures for a while.

It wasn't until my second semester of college at Orange Coast College that I developed this thirst to do something creative and productive besides just taking my regular required courses to graduate. I wanted to take a course that I would enjoy. When registration time came around, everything I wanted to do--cooking, dance, kayaking, surfing, and bookmaking--was all taken, except for Intro to Photography 101. I remember there was only one spot left, and I said to myself, "What the heck, how hard can this be?" It was almost as though God had held this one position open for me.

The course started out with 50 students and by the next month dropped down to 12 students. I wish I could tell you I passed with flying colors, but I didn't. I retook the course, which is when I fell in love with taking pictures with film, developing the pictures in a dark room and

watching them come to life. It was a process that caused me to feel like this was what I was meant to do.

Photography isn't as easy as everyone may make it seem. It takes extreme dedication, precision, an enormous amount of patience, outstanding lighting skills, a great eye, and, most importantly, passion.

I have been privileged to enter into several photography competitions such as Photographer's Forum Magazine Photography Contest, Nikon International Photography Contest, Canon Photography Contest, Orange Coast College Photography Contest, and many more. I have been blessed to show my photography pieces in galleries like Frank M. Doyle Arts Pavillion Gallery and Orange County Fairgrounds. I have assisted with and had many photo shoots, but my favorite was being with the Kardashians with fashion photographer Daniel Kincaid.

Right now I am finishing my Photography Lab Technician License and Still Photography Certificate, as well as publishing a book called "A Well of Visions." The book will be part of a series and is currently in the beginning stages, but I can't wait for it to be finished.

As for the future, my passion and talent are major gifts from God, and there isn't a day where I don't thank God for holding that one spot open for me. I will wait and go wherever He wants me to go.



Just Dance

Concordia Dance Company concert

CAITLYN DAVENPORT
STAFF WRITER

This Friday and Saturday, Concordia's Dance Company will hold its concert in the Black Box Theatre starting at 7:30 p.m. both nights.

The show will include lyrical, modern/contemporary, jazz, and hip hop routines that the company has been preparing since the beginning of the school year. The Crean Lutheran High School dance team will be guest performing for three of the dance numbers, and the show is being sponsored by Concordia's Theatre Department.

Melissa Wilson, junior captain of the dance company, is proud of her fellow teammates for coming a long way this semester. "We went from having to learn a few dances for Midnight Madness to now performing 17 routines, and they have put so much work into it," said Wilson. "They're just amazing, and it helps that they are actually dedicated to dancing, exercising, as well as performing for God."

Students choreographed many of the numbers themselves, with Nicole Stokes and Alyssa Jones--Concordia's and Crean's dance coaches respectively--providing direction and suggestions. Stokes likes the girls to choreograph their own pieces. "It gives them creative freedom and the ability grow even more," she said.

The show will consist of group dances, duets, and solos from some of the returning dancers. Jessica Abel, sophomore who is performing a

solo during the concert, said, "I got to choreograph my solo with some help from my jazz teacher. It has been challenging, but I think the show is really coming together." Abel says of her teammates, "The girls are all really great, and when we're all together we have fun, which is important for a team."

Stokes, who has been the dance company's coach for a year, says being their coach is a blessing. "Being able to coach at Concordia is great because of the Christian-based values, and a lot of our dances include God in them," she said.

Stokes asked her dancers to find a Bible verse that connected with their dance. The dances are inspired by scripture and portray life lessons throughout the Bible. Since becoming coach, Stokes's favorite part is watching the girls grow, learn, and get out of their comfort zone. "It is so rewarding; they really took this challenge to heart," she said.

Alex Bauer, senior, has been with the dance company all four of her years at Concordia. "I choreographed two pieces that are really different. One is a hip-hop dance, and the other is a dark jazz dance. I like to incorporate all types of dance into my work," she said. Bauer said she is most excited for everyone to see the variety of dances they have prepared.

Admission to the show is free and is first come first seated, so you will need to get there early. For more information about the dance concert, check out the Concordia Event Calendar at www.cui.edu.

In over our (war)heads?

The story of North Korea's nuclear threats

ANNA STERN
STAFF WRITER

With North Korea's recent threats of employment of supposedly more advanced nuclear weaponry this past month, it has become especially evident that the world is no stranger to nuclear crises. North Korea has been issuing almost daily threats against the US, South Korea, and Japan, claiming that they are capable of carrying out pre-emptive strikes which could turn cities into "seas of fire." The North Koreans have conducted at least three nuclear tests since 2006, and their recent missile launchings have caused international concern and the need for drastic sanctions.

North Korea is currently developing long-range missiles, and the CIA has come to the conclusion that the North is, in fact, capable of making a nuclear weapon small enough to be delivered by a ballistic missile. Although North Korea's motives cannot be completely understood, it is believed that these threats are a result of the United States pushing for United Nations sanctions to discipline North Korea for its nuclear testing this past February, according to "The New York Times".

Another explanation for these threats could be that North Korea is seeking economic and food aid, which it has received in the past in exchange for promises, almost always broken soon afterwards, that it would desist from further de-

velopment of nuclear weaponry. Finally, it could simply be that North Korea's new, young and untested ruler, Kim Jung-un, wants to establish a reputation as a strong leader.

In a new Pew Research poll, 56% of Americans polled believed that the North Korean threats of nuclear missiles should be taken seriously. About 47% of Americans polled believed that North Korea would follow through with its threats, while 41% believed that the threats were mere posturing.

Given 40 years of Cold War history that many feared could erupt at any time into a nuclear holocaust, followed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons among such models of stability as Pakistan, and now Iran as well, it is no surprise that the North Korean threats are causing mixed feelings.

However, Dr. Daniel van Voorhis, Chair of the Department of History and Political Thought, believes that the current nuclear brouhaha is really no crisis at all. "It's unsettling, but nothing I'd lose sleep over because North Korea does not have the natural resources necessary," said van Voorhis. Dr. Adam Francisco, Associate Professor of History and Political Thought, also believes that North Korea's threats have never resulted in much, but that all threats should be taken seriously and confronted diplomatically or with military resources, if necessary.



Kim Jong-un is a hereditary leader who came into power a year and a half ago. "He doesn't have the backing and has to show toughness," said van Voorhis. "North Korea is ruled by a 30-year-old kid who doesn't know what he's doing." Francisco came to the same conclusions about the Korean leader. "It's fairly typical for North Korea to rattle its sword from time to time, especially when there is a transition of power," said Francisco. "North Korea will remain an insignificant, albeit rogue, nuclear state."

The Obama administration's current policy concerning the North Korea situation is "strategic patience," which withholds negotiations, aid, or other concessions until the North Korean leader proves willing to negotiate.

The United Nations Security Council has now passed four resolutions targeting North Korea, while the United States has imposed heightened sanctions on the country. These sanctions have deeply affected its economy and will hopefully cause the country to come to the conference table instead of waving its weapons, whether real or threatened, around.

Students thrive in China MAIS program

EDWARD HURLEY
STAFF WRITER

A year abroad in China, earning a master's degree in international studies, all while teaching English to Chinese students in a classroom setting: this is what some Concordia graduates will be doing this fall.

Concordia's Masters of Arts in International Studies program began 10 years ago, and many students have had the opportunity to immerse themselves in a new culture and new language. Dr. Eugene Kim, Dean of Asia Programs and Professor of International Studies, emphasized what the students will be doing as well as how students should prepare themselves to thrive in this program. "We have designed the MAIS curriculum in the summer-in-residence at CUI to be preparatory for the year ahead in China. During the six weeks on campus, we provide academic, cultural, and spiritual resources and training," said Kim. "Beyond this, to be successful in the MAIS program, one must possess the proper attitude—teachable (always ready to learn), humble (deferential and willing to put others before self), and adaptable (flexible amidst challenges)."

There are over 60 students who will be taking classes on campus this summer and going to China in the fall. Senior Ann Rossi said that she has visited China in the past and looks forward to her return. "This program seemed like the perfect opportunity to live in a place I love, but I also have the chance to pursue my career of teaching," she said. "I think teaching in China will be an interesting opportunity. It may be a little difficult settling into the process of teaching English in a different country, but I am looking forward to the challenge."

Graduate Ashley Turner, '11, finished her undergraduate work at Concordia and was already teaching in China when she heard about the program. She looks forward to the knowledge she will continue to gain as an educator in China and the information she can share with her students. "I want my students to know about the world. I have millions of ideas, and I think incorporating service learning in a Chinese classroom is rewarding in many ways," said Turner.

The program has not only attracted Concordia students, but students all over the world. Sara Peters had been teaching in Korea before she applied to the program. "I'm about to finish my second year teaching at the same school I taught at while in the program. I will teach at a new school in Shanghai come August 12," Peters said. "I will live in China for many years to come. There are always English jobs here in China." Peters is one of the many students whom Chinese employers have invited to stay and teach after completing a Master's degree.

The MAIS program is structured somewhat differently than most Master's programs because students finish their theses as well as the program within one year, as opposed to the typical two years required. Assistant Professor of English, Adam Lee, believes that students should not allow fear to stop them from attending the overseas program. "I think China is the most important country for our students to get to know, and living there is the best way to get to know it," said Lee. "You're at the perfect age to see the world, and life will soon get in your way. So go now."

Students interested in the 2014 MAIS China program should send an email to Josh.Geisinger@cui.edu or visit www.cui.edu/mais for more information.

When life gives you lemons... Celebrate!

MAGGIE DARBY
ARTS EDITOR

When life gives you lemons... celebrate! The city of La Habra sure does. Last weekend, the city hosted its annual citrus fair filled with rides, shows, and foods all in celebration of citric fruits. The fair ran from April 18-21.

The weekend was filled with fun events such as the bubble parade, bubble dance-off, and visits by mascots: Limon the Lemon, Val the Orange, and Hass the Avocado. According to their website, Limon is a Mexican-American lemon who speaks Spanish, Val the Orange enjoys shopping, and Hass the Avocado really likes fair food. Admission was free for this four-day festival that honored California's agricultural heritage. Pre-sale tickets were available online in order to obtain discount ride tickets to the fair.

The theme of the 2013 citrus fair was "Good Times", and their slogan was that they were "celebrating life in La Habra."

The different events included a history museum of "Those Fabulous Fruits", shopping, and bounce houses for little lemons under the age of five.

The city gets involved with this production by means of entertainment. At the festival, La Habra City school district concert band, La Habra Jazz Ensemble, and Hart Academy of Dance all performed. Other shows included a band called Legacy, Orquesta Cortez (a Latin salsa band), and Caitlin Lucia, an indie pop singer. These diverse performers made for a weekend of entertainment that a-peeled to every type of palate.

One of the rides included at the fair was a large swing set from Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch that played his music as a tribute to the late musician. An event that was sure to cause its contestants to pucker was called the "Ultimate Sweet & Sour Competition". Those with a zest for competition would have enjoyed

this eating contest, which awarded points to volunteers for eating the most lemons or oranges in the shortest amount of time. There was even a \$100 prize for the winner. Contestants were encouraged to "test their pucker power."

The festival is sponsored by Pacific Community Credit Union, with supporting sponsors of Brio, Lady Bugs Environmental Termite & Pest Control, Big Lots!, Summerhill Homes, Cal-Domestic Water, and Southern California Edison. Radio Disney also made a guest appearance on Sat., April 20, with a booth hosting games, interactive entertainment, and prizes for the whole family.

Though you may have missed out on the 2013 Citrus Fair in La Habra, it is an annual event that will celebrate citrus for years to come. To learn more about the fair, visit their website at <http://www.citrusfair.com>. Orange you glad I didn't make another lemon joke?



Dihn Quik on the draw

CAMESHA PATTON
STAFF WRITER

Dominique Dinh, senior, has gone overseas to Hong Kong on an internship with Quiksilver. Although Dinh is reaping the benefits of her hard work now, her journey has been anything but easy.

During Dinh's junior year of high school, she approached her first mental roadblock. "I fell on some hard times mentally during my junior year of high school, so I actually almost dropped out," said Dinh. "Luckily in this day and age, we have online school, so I was able to attend online school for two years to get my grades back up to the point where I could attend university without having to go through community college." Upon completion of high school, Dinh made the decision to take a year off before she attended college in order to "find herself personally."

However, during her time off, she did not just sit around waiting for a sign. In fact, she decided to use this time to travel. Dinh traveled to places such as New York, Washington DC, Vietnam, and Japan, and it was during this time that she decided to major in marketing. When Dinh returned from her travels, she applied to Concordia. "I picked CUI not only because it's local for me and I can stay with my family, but I really loved that I could be in a class with at most around 30 students," said Dinh.

During Dinh's junior year, she received many internship opportunities. These opportunities consisted of internships at Obey Clothing and Toddland Clothing. Also, thanks to Professor Shiery's internet Marketing class, Dinh decided she wanted to specialize in Social Media

Marketing, with an emphasis on the fashion and beauty industries. Dinh also pursued special training in Social Media for the fashion industry at PacSun's headquarters in Anaheim. "There are three types of students. Students that make things happen, students that watch things happen, and students that ask what in the world just happened," said Dr. Marc Fawaz, Associate Professor of Business. "Dominique was the student that made things happen."

Carolyn Shiery, Assistant Professor of Marketing, had nothing but good things to say about Dinh. "Dominique listens to her own drummer and went her own way," said Shiery. "She sets a goal and she goes for it. She never gives up on her focus." Shiery, among other faculty, refuse to take any credit in Dinh's success at Concordia. Christopher Nagel, Associate Professor of Business, is another professor whom Dinh consulted for guidance in her year-long preparation process for Quiksilver. Dinh advises any student who is looking to do business overseas to take a course with Nagel. "I have used so much of the information I learned in his classes in my work life, and what he is teaching is very much how it is in the real world," said Dinh.

Dinh stood out in such a way that granted her the opportunities few students get to experience.

"If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there," said Nagel. "When students show initiative, faculty will go overboard helping them succeed."

She leaves students who wish to pursue the same opportunities she did with this advice: "Don't be afraid of being ambitious; get as much experience in your related field as you can (even if you don't get paid for it)." Concordia will see Dinh again when she returns in May to graduate.

Midnight snacks in Irvine

ALICIA HARGER
LAYOUT EDITOR

This semester, I embarked on a scientific journey. Through my research, I discovered that there is indeed a cap to the number of times you can eat Taco Bell in a week without dying. However, my close brush with burrito-caused death did not hamper my midnight cravings. With finals week coming up, I know all you procrastinators are going to be pulling some late nights. So here's a list of open-late establishments in Irvine that won't break the bank.

1. Blaze Pizza

Blaze's best feature is their create-your-own pizza option. For a reasonable price, you can have your pizza as you like it.

Location: University Center

Hours: 11 a.m. - 1 a.m.

2. Chae Bahn Restaurant

Feeling ethnic? Chae Bahn offers Korean cuisine well into the night. The bibimbap is a house specialty.

Location: Alton Parkway

Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 a.m.

3. Berkeley Dog

Known for their outrageous hot dog specials (they serve snake dogs), Berkeley Dog is great if you're feeling adventurous or if you just want a solid dog. Warning: this place closes at 11, so it's not really suitable for midnight cravings.

Location: University Center

Hours: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.

4. Cha For Tea

Well known among students here, Cha is a popular place to pick up some boba and chicken.

Location: University Center

Hours: 10 a.m. - 1 a.m.

5. The Balcony Grill and Bar

I must confess I've never been here personally. However, reviews of the food here are very positive. Apparently the shaved ice is excellent; it's on my list of places to try.

Location: Alton Parkway

Hours: Sun.-Wed. 5 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Thurs.-Sat. 5 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Aerie ready to fly

JASON HOLTE
STAFF WRITER

The launch party for the Aerie, Concordia's annual magazine showcasing student art and creative writing, is on Mon., April 29, in Good Shepherd Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Approximately 40 pieces were selected for publication in this year's Aerie by a panel of students and professors. On the creative writing side, over 100 submissions were received, and 25 made the final cut.

The selection panel was impressed by the overall quality of this year's entries in addition to the amount of entries received. "There were so many strong submissions," said junior co-editor Gretchen Sheetz. "It was really difficult to choose between some of the pieces for the last few spots."

With many worthy candidates, the panel was able to focus more on the overall direction for the Aerie. "We wanted to pick pieces the whole campus would enjoy, as well as pieces that we really liked," said Taylor Bundy, sophomore co-editor. "We didn't want the Aerie to be just for the people who submitted something."

Although the Aerie does not have a set theme every year, according to Sheetz, many of this year's entries dealt with persevering through struggles. "The creative non-fiction was really powerful. I would be reading and then I would have to stop and remind myself that this was something that actually happened," said Sheetz.

The magazine is as much about allowing students to find their artistic voice as it is about recognizing them for their creative achievements. "The Aerie is a terrific venue for student expression. It's always exciting to see what students can come up with," said Associate Professor of English Thea Gavin, who was also part of the selection committee.

The Aerie launch party will be the first opportunity for students to pick up a free copy of the magazine, and it will also be a chance to see the pieces come to life. There will be a slide show displaying each of the works of art that were published, live readings of the literature selections by their authors, and refreshments will be served.

The event is also the Poetry Club's open mic night for the spring semester, so after the pieces from the Aerie have been read, the floor will be open to anybody who wants a chance to read original poetry aloud.

"It will be a great break from finals week, just a chance to relax and decompress," said Bundy. "It's an opportunity to see what your classmates have done, plus it's at night and there's free food!"

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TUCKER THORSON
MUSIC GURU

Ghost Mice is a wonderful folk-punk two-piece band out of Indiana. The reason I love Ghost Mice so much is they combine two genres that I view as completely opposite: punk and folk. They incorporate the fast-paced sound of punk music, but they do it by using acoustic guitars and violins. *The Debt of the Dead* is comprised of the happiest sad songs you'll ever hear. By just listening to the songs, you would have no idea that they are about heartbreak and the turmoils of life, but once you listen to the lyrics, you realize it's a completely different story. My personal favorite track on the album is "Hang On Kid", which is a melancholy song of encouragement towards kids in school. It's a reminder that there is life after school. The song utilizes duet singing between male and female vocalists. It has great instrumental components on the track, happy-go-lucky sounding vocals, and pleasant lyrics about keeping your head up.

As this is my last review of the school year and I won't be able to write about all the wonderful albums that will drop this summer, here is a list of what you should keep your eyes peeled for:

- *Modern Vampires in the City* by Vampire Weekend
 - *The Greatest Generation* by The Wonder Years
 - *Weird Shapes* by Surfer Blood
 - *Trouble Will Find Me* by The National
 - *EP* by Best Coast
 - *The Hurry and The Harm* by City and Colour
 - *MGMT* by MGMT
 - *A Better Tomorrow* by Wu-Tang Clan
- As always, keep listening.

And the rose goes to...

After brainstorming for well-rounded singles on Concordia's campus, a Courier-approved committee selected some of the school's most eligible students.

Stephanie Ashton:

Major: Theology, with a Psychology minor. Currently involved with music on campus. Plans on getting her Master's degree after graduation or living in Brazil. Interesting fact: a song she sang was once played on the radio.

Hobbies: going to Disneyland and traveling. Biggest pet peeve: "When I'm having a conversation with someone and they are constantly checking their phone."

Stephanie's Type: A genuine guy who can be silly, but serious when it's appropriate. He must make her laugh. He also has to like going on spontaneous adventures (like to the beach or Yogurtland) and watching movies. Blue eyes are a plus.

Stevan Cantero:

Major: Sports Management, minor in Accounting.

Stevan is involved with the Concordia Business Fraternity and also plays Intramural sports on campus.

After graduation, Stevan plans on experiencing the world through travel and later plans on

working in the sports industry as a sales rep.

Interesting fact: He can speak Spanish. Hobbies: Reading books about business, sports, and leadership.

Biggest pet peeve: When people drag their feet.

Stevan's Type: Someone who has an athletic physique, likes trying new things, is kind hearted, adventurous, a good cook, has an ambitious attitude, and who is able to teach him new things about life (colored eyes are a plus).

Levi Hamilton:

Major: Business-Accounting and Finance. Levi is involved in SIFE, Delta Sigma Pi, and the official Get Joel Stichler a Girlfriend club.

Where does he see himself after graduation? "Well if I'm seeing myself... probably standing in front of a mirror?????"

Interesting fact: Homeowner, traveled around the world, and kissing him has been proven to increase GPA, decrease your waist size, and cure the common cold.

Hobbies: Knife throwing, taking strolls in the parking lots so commuters trying to park think he's leaving, and leaving Megan Miller's toilet seat up.

Biggest pet peeve: Sorority speak (overuse of abbreviations and misuse of "literally").

Levi's Type: In order of importance: a strong Christian, a good personality, and athletic.

Alex Lange:

Major: Anthropology.

Alex is involved in the LEAD program on campus and was also a part of the ATW II semester.

After graduation, Alex plans on being somewhere on the other side of the globe.

Interesting fact: He has unusually long arms that make for great hugs.

Hobbies: Mountaineering, and rattling off lines from "Through the Looking Glass and What Alice Found There" at oddly-applicable times.

Biggest pet peeve: "Walk dances: When the person walking directly at you can't make up their mind which way they want to split off, resulting in a fumbling waltz of indecision."

Alex's Type: Precious.

Gretchen Sheetz:

Major: Music Performance, with a minor in Creative Writing.

Gretchen is highly involved in the music department, participating in the Concordia Choir, Concordia Sinfonietta, Concordia Wind Orchestra, Concordia Jazz Combo, and EXALT. She is co-editor of The Aerie magazine and works in the Writing Center and as a Music Department tutor.

Plans after graduation: Get her master's degree in music, then pursue a career as a profes-

sional musician.

Interesting fact: She plays the harp.

Hobbies: Reading and dancing.

Biggest pet peeve: "When people put on a persona according to whom they hang out with or because they have an agenda to fulfill."

Gretchen's Type: Someone who is honest, funny, hard-working, respectful and has behaviors that demonstrate a strong heart for God.

Adrian Valenzuela:

Major: Communication with an emphasis in Mass Comm.

Adrian is involved in the communication group on campus and used to be on the debate team.

After graduation, Adrian plans on continuing his career with Apple and hopefully traveling to see some historical spots in America.

Interesting fact: He has a bouncy skip to his walk.

Hobbies: going out with friends and doing anything that is adventurous and fun, as well as playing basketball.

Biggest pet peeve: Country music, which he suspects may be a reason that he's still single. Also, when people are fake and have double standards.

Adrian's Type: Someone who can be his best friend and like him without there being any conditions. He likes everyone!



From top left: Gretchen Sheetz, Stevan Cantero, Alex Lange, Adrian Valenzuela, Stephanie Ashton, Levi Hamilton.

Lost in Translation: My Korean BBQ Adventure

CAITLYN DAVENPORT
STAFF WRITER

Let me begin by saying I come from a Southern family. When I hear the word 'barbeque', the first things that come to mind are ribs dripping with barbeque sauce, pulled pork, creamy coleslaw, baked beans, and tea so sweet it makes your lips pucker. Having this mentality when going to Korean barbeque for the first time made my experience interesting to say the very least.

We arrived at Gen Korean BBQ in Tustin at 10 p.m. on a weekday and were told the wait was about 45 minutes. I was so shocked to see so many people waiting since it was fairly late to

eat, but we only had to wait for about 10 minutes. As we were being seated, I could see that the whole place was completely packed. Our table was a booth with a huge grill in the middle, which was something I wasn't expecting. I was then informed by one of my friends that we would be cooking our food.

Thankfully all the people I went with are experienced BBQ'ers, so I didn't have to order anything except for my soda. It's an all you can eat dinner, but you have to finish all the meat you order. If you don't eat all of the meat, you will be charged extra. My friends started ordering brisket, chicken and pork belly first. While we waited for the meat to arrive, my friend who

is from Korea explained this is one of the best Korean BBQ's that she's been to besides the ones in Korea. She went on to show me all of the side dishes, which are important parts of the meal, including rice paper and salad that has soy vinaigrette dressing. These small dishes are referred to as banchan.

Our meat arrived and was immediately thrown on the grill. It didn't take very long to cook, and I finally got to try the main course! Everything I tried was flavorful; I particularly enjoyed the sirloin and chicken, while everyone else's favorite was the brisket. As our waiter continued to bring us more and more food, one of the girls with our group recognized a waiter

from her church, and he said he was going to bring us a "bomb treat". He came back with large pieces of garlic in sesame oil and put it on the grill and told us to let it cook for a while. Let me tell you, he was right that garlic was "the bomb".

Overall my first experience at Korean BBQ was delightful. The staff at Gen was friendly and helpful, and the food was delicious. I would definitely go back. My friends and I did all you can eat for \$20 per person. Gen has various happy hour specials going on during the week, and it is open everyday from 11:30 a.m. till midnight, but they stop serving food at 11p.m. For more information about Gen, visit their website at www.genkoreanbbq.com.