

12th annual Academic Showcase displays students' best

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AND
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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Winners of the 2015 President's Academic Showcase of Undergraduate Research were announced today in chapel. The 12th annual interdisciplinary competition allows students to work with a faculty advisor on an academic research project.

Showcase participants fall into either Tier One, juniors and seniors, or Tier Two, freshmen and sophomores. For both tiers, the competition includes a research paper and a poster session. Tier One also includes finalist presentations.

The finalists of the Tier One competition were Katelyn Carbiener, Grace Chong & Rafael Ramos, Cecilia Lledo, Amanda Ozaki and Kelsey Swerdfeger. Tier One finalists presented their oral presentations in DeNault Auditorium on Wednesday.

In Tier Two, Daniel Welchons, freshman, came in first place with his project titled, "The German Quest for Identity 1870-1914." His faculty advisor was Dr. Daniel van Voorhis, Chair, History and Political Thought Department. Elise Logan, freshman, came in second place with her project titled, "The Effects of Parental Incarceration on Children." Her faculty advisor was Dr. Roberto Flores de Apodaca, Professor of Psychology. Caleb Speakman, freshman, came in third place with his project titled, "A New Approach to Animal Rights." His faculty advisor was Thea Gavin, Professor of English.

Best Poster award was given to Brittany Edwards and Thinh Kieu for their project titled, "Testing Leucine Deficiency in a Particular *Salmonella Typhimurium* Strain and its Role in

Cancer Prevention." Their faculty advisor was Dr. Sean Bignami, Assistant Professor of Biology.

Last Tues., March 31, students set up on the CU Center Patio and pinned the fruits of their research to posters for all the campus to see as part of poster session. "(The Poster Session) is the time for students to go and see what their fellow students have been doing," said Dr. Melinda Schulteis, Professor of Mathematics and Academic Showcase Coordinator, '95. "(It is) for them to see and appreciate what their fellow students have done, but also to see what's available to them."

The Academic Showcase is open to "those who are looking to academically challenge themselves," Schulteis said. Students need only

present research ideas to a professor of their choice, receive said professor's blessing, and study under the mentorship of the chosen professor. Students then can dive deep into a world of scholarly research and strive to come out on top, because, as Carrie Gendle, senior English major and 2015 participant said, "the prizes are great!"

The experience received throughout the project is valuable and often appealing to many students interested in graduate school. "A lot of students in Tier One are entering senior thesis work, so that is work that they have submitted to graduate schools for their entry qualifications," Schulteis said.

Kendall Davis, junior Biblical Languages and Theater double major and 2015 participant, ex-

pressed how the showcase pushes students in ways that go beyond the average classroom. "It's one thing to write a seven-page term paper. It is an entirely different thing to write a twenty-plus-page research paper," Davis said.

Money and experience, however, are not the only motivations—pure student interest plays a part as well. "It's not just another assignment; it was something I am passionate about," Gendle said. Gendle's research focused on the merit of literary analysis through five defined tenets of punk rock culture. Having an interest and history with punk rock, Gendle said one day she just thought, "Why is this extreme culture not being studied by English Majors?" and decided to pursue it. Her experience demonstrates the freedom allowed for Showcase participants to follow their interests.

Students find different things meaningful, but a common thread many student participants appreciate is the relationship experienced with their professor mentor. "In a classroom, you don't get a chance to really have a discussion with teachers," Gendle said. Welchons, freshman History and Political Thought major and 2015 participant, thought this student-teacher relationship was unique. "You get a more personal interaction when you go meet your professor each week. It creates this dialogue."

Schulteis expressed that many students note the satisfaction they receive from their mentorship. "Having a faculty mentor there to bounce ideas off of and point you in the right direction, I think that is definitely the most valuable piece that comes out of it," Schulteis said.

Students interested in participating in future Academic Showcases are encouraged to talk to professors or Schulteis and look for more information in the fall about the 2016 Academic Showcase at cui.edu/mycui.



Tier One Finalists of the 2015 President's Academic Showcase of Undergraduate Research

Debate wins big at Nationals

ALEX GERRAIN
STAFF WRITER

The Debate Team recently traveled to the National Parliamentary Debate Association's Championship Tournament where they earned enough points to receive the national title. They earned a total of 64 points throughout the tournament against their competitors, edging out second place Washburn University, who earned only 58 points. The awarding of the national title, our second in three years, brings with it national recognition.

Over the past several years, The Debate Team has never finished any lower than second place at the national tournament, allowing the entire Speech and Debate program to be recognized as a top-notch program. This program has started from the bottom and has worked extremely hard to obtain this amount of success.

Konrad Hack, Director of Forensics and Assistant Professor of Communication Studies, put in time and knowledge to help prepare his team for the competition as they headed to Stockton. "I am most proud of the fourteen people who worked hard the entire year, including our excellent coaching staff," Hack said. That excellent staff is led by Professor Kevin Calderwood.

As a team whose members challenge, motivate, and better one another, they are comprised of many talented individuals who are divided up into pairs and tackle specific strengths as they attempt to beat the opposing team. Two of these students, Richard Ewell and Amanda Ozaki, seniors, were the only undefeated team in the

preliminary round of the competition. "I came to Concordia for the debate scholarship, but I stayed because of the fabulous coaching staff and wonderful friends I made on the debate team," Ozaki said.

The competition at the tournament was strong. Concordia was one of the top 10 schools to participate in the tournament, competing against the fierce Washburn University in the final round. Joshua Vannoy, junior, put his knowledge to the test as he competed for his team and strived to be the first place team in the tournament. "Top eight is the best I have

ever done but the real victory for me is the relationship and support the team had built this year and the success we received by doing so," Vannoy said.

The program's official title is the Forensics Debate and Speech Program, which includes both members from the Debate and Speech teams. Although they are combined members under one program, they are also completely separate teams with specific talents. "We work together, mourn together and celebrate together. Though we are separate teams, we still support one another and help each other whenever help

is needed," said Beverly Richhart, freshman member of the Speech Team.

This program has rewarded our university in more ways than just winning a national title. The Debate Team contributes to many other aspects that gives reasons as to why the team and the staff have become a primary piece in our university's development of articulate and talented students. The program has helped these students in communication and research skills, the ability to challenge critical thinking, and enhance worldly knowledge.



Debate Team- photo from: cui.edu

Jessica Greenwald makes a splash at Paralympics

KAYTLIN VISCA
STAFF WRITER

Junior Jessica Greenwald participated in the Can/Am Para-Swimming Championships in Ontario, Canada from Thurs., March 19 through Sun., March 22.

Organized in 1948 to support injured WWII veterans, the Paralympic Games have become one of the largest international sporting events bringing together athletes with a range of physical disabilities.

Greenwald has been a part of Concordia's swim team since her freshman year, and she has loved every moment of it. With all sports come struggles, and for Greenwald, it is no different. "My coaches and teammates have pushed me beyond what I thought was even possible," Greenwald said.

At the Championships in Ontario, there were 14 classifications, broken down with different swimming strokes.

Greenwald spent the first day of the trials warming up and getting used to what would be her new home for the weekend. "In the morning, people swim based off of their times," Gre-

enwald said. "Then in the evening, you swim in the finals if you were able to make the cut." On the second day, she got her spot during the 100-yard breaststroke. During the 50-yard freestyle preliminaries, she dropped 13 seconds off of her previous time. "During each event I cut my time," Greenwald said.

Greenwald placed sixth across the board, and placed ninth overall in the breaststroke with a time of 2:59.41 seconds in the long course.

Overall, Greenwald placed first alternative, which later moved her into the No. 10 spot. This put her in the top 10, which she worked hard for. By the end of the night, she was in the No. 9 spot.

In February, Greenwald swam at the Pacific California's Swimming Championships, which was her last competition before she went to Canada. Greenwald enjoyed going to Canada because she relishes the opportunity to travel. Along with doing something she loves, she also gets to experience a new country and its people.

Greenwald has made a huge impact on her team and others around her. "Being a part of the Concordia Swim Team with (Greenwald) has been a great experience," said John Dowd,

junior. "Just being able to watch her achieve the goal that she has set out for in qualifying for the Paralympic Trials and reaching the level of success that she has is pretty incredible."

Dowd enjoys being a part of the team as well, and finds Greenwald to be a motivation for not only him, but the entire swim team family. "Watching (Greenwald's) motivation and drive in the pool has really made a lasting impact on our team as a whole," Dowd said.

Greenwald's bright and bubbly personality can be felt at competitions and around campus when people see her. Her determination and motivation is an inspiration to swimmers and nonswimmers alike.

Sam Leanza, junior, has been friends and teammates with Greenwald since their freshman year at Concordia. "We inspire each other," Leanza said. "It's how one of us can help the other. We give and take from each other, and it keeps us both motivated." Leanza and Greenwald carpool together to practice, so they have become close friends over the years.

Greenwald's drive won't stop here. She plans to continuously work toward her goal of participating in the Paralympics in the future.



Jessica Greenwald, junior

Men's Basketball makes it to Nationals

SAVANNAH ELLISON
STAFF WRITER

Thirty-two teams across the country took to the court in Kansas City, Mo. at the 78th annual NAIA National Championship. But we were only watching one: the CUI Men's Basketball Team. The team spent an entire week in KC fighting for the title, but fell to the University of Pikeville 97-93 in overtime in the second round.

Our ninth-ranked team with a record of 26-7 this season started out against Oklahoma City (18-8) in the first round of eliminations. Concordia rallied against Oklahoma City and came out with a win of 74-62. Sophomore Justin Davis said his favorite part of this experience was the atmosphere. "Everyone wanted to win so badly. Basketball was all that mattered." And it definitely showed when Davis scored 13 points and had 4 rebounds in the first round.

On Fri., March 20, the team went on to play Pikeville in the Liston Bracket. The teams had never played each other, but both have won the NAIA National Championship previously; Pikeville in 2011 and Concordia in 2012. The teams battled it out in overtime with an ending score of 97-93 ending Concordia's season at 27-8. Davis said, "We fell short of our goal, but we left it all on the court. You can bet we are coming back better and stronger."

Even though the National Championship took place halfway across the country, supporters back home were able to stay connected. "I supported them from school because I wanted to be there with them, but since we weren't able to go I kept up however I could," said junior cheerleader Abigail Hatt. "I watched it in my sports class and if I wasn't able to watch it, I had someone texting me how it was going." Hatt also said that many professors also wanted to watch the game during class.

Although results fell short of the team's goal, the fans, staff, faculty and coaches all saw the heart and dedication in each of the athletes. The seniors will be greatly missed, but we are looking forward to the new competition in NCAA Division II. We know the men will come back hungry and will only strive to get better.

Concordia basketball ends their NAIA era with 12 overall trips to Nationals and two national titles (2003 & 2012). The team is ready to start their NCAA career and looks forward to watching how the team grows through this transition. For more information regarding the team, stats or the roster, visit cuieagles.com

The Concordia Courier

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Cheer Team flyin’ high

MAILE WILSON
STAFF WRITER

Finishing off a great season, the Concordia Cheer Team went out with a bang when they placed third at Nationals at the Anaheim Convention Center on March 22 and 23. In addition to cheering at various sporting events and fundraisers throughout the year, the women showcased their talent and shine when they competed against top-notch universities in this final showdown.

When the first day of competition arrived, the ladies went in with a positive attitude. Placing fourth in prelims, Head Coach Amy Haney said, “it’s always the unknown of getting there and not knowing how the girls are going to react when they perform, but they did really well.”

The Eagles’ energy peaked at an all-time high when they returned on Monday for the last day of competition. The team moved up a ranking to third place, trailing right behind Northern Arizona University, who placed second, and California Baptist University, who took first place.

Sophomore cheer member Caleigh Swanson was proud of how her team competed and how strong they have become over the course of their nine-month-long season. “Our chemistry is stronger than any other cheer team I’ve been on. We’re more than just great friends; we’re a family,” Swanson said. “Even our coaches have been so supportive and loving of us. What we have is something so rare.” With no breaks during their season, the ladies have to be both mentally and

physically tough.

The Lady Eagles have worked extremely hard to build up their reputation for themselves and this club program. Their season consists of both morning and afternoon workouts, and for the first time ever, they practiced off campus at a facility with springboards.

Senior Captains Kendra Leach and Jordynn Barnes feel that the discipline and work ethic of the team was their drive this whole season. “Changing our practice schedule allowed us to work harder than ever, and I think that’s why we did so well,” Barnes said. Although practicing in the CU gym was easier for the girls, being able to practice at different facilities allowed them to grow as athletes.

First year Assistant Coach Karli Shutt was able to contribute to the ladies’ success from her experience at California State University Long Beach. Together Shutt and Haney built a foundation for the cheer team. Abigail Hatt, junior member of the cheer squad, applauded the great coaching staff they have. “Both of our coaches are fantastic and none of this would have been possible without them,” Hatt said.

Haney emphasizes integrity and trust, and was amazed at how much these women grew together. “The girls have worked hard this season not just for me, but for each other as well,” Haney said.

It is no doubt that the women worked hard all season and it is clear they paved the way for years to come.

Softball enters “The Grind”

SPENCER NIELSEN
STAFF WRITER

Concordia Softball has experienced a lot of success in the past few seasons. In 2013, they brought home the National Championship with an impressive record of 52-3. In 2014, they fell short but still recorded another winning season with a record of 50-7. This season, they are off to a good start with a record of 37-5.

A key reason for the success of this program has been the team chemistry between players as well as the coaches. Brittani McGue, senior pitcher, said, “on and off the field, the connection and chemistry between the players creates for a better environment when we strap on our cleats come game day.”

Senior outfielder Ashley Miller mentioned that this part of season is what they refer to as, “the grind.” Miller said, “When a team gets this deep into season, it gets difficult to come out fresh every day, but taking the field with your family makes the grind that much easier and enjoyable.”

There are five characteristics that the coaching staff has based their program on: hard work, humbleness, selflessness, accountability and competitiveness. To accompany these five characteristics, the theme of this year for this determined group is Blue Collar. Hannah Howell, junior third basemen said, “Blue Collar is putting everything you have into everything you do and you don’t need to be praised for it because it is your job.”

Howell also said, “in practice, we focus on being extremely fast and making everything as game-like as possible.”

Megan Feuerstein, junior second basemen, said the practices consist of things like base running, situational offense and defense drills, hitting, and lifting. At this point of the season, practice is mainly to stay sharp on defense and focus on specifics of hitting.

McGue also believes that their coaching staff is driven to win every game they play, so they instill this mindset into each player to also do the same. “We want to win every pitch and every inning,” McGue said.

Feuerstein said that for the most part, the team’s hitting and inability to control the pace of the game has resulted in five losses. Some of the team’s success can be attributed to freshman Pitcher of the Week Grayson Harvey. “It was very rewarding when I found out I was Pitcher of the Week. It is also a reminder to work hard day in and day out because we as a team want to be the best we can,” Harvey said.

The drive for success within this organization seems to steadily rely on hard work, dedication and devotion. The constant grind for these players takes its toll but the end result of a win is worth every drop of blood, sweat and tears.

Come out and support Concordia Softball at the next home games against San Diego Christian tomorrow, April 11 at 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. If you cannot make it out, you can also tune into www.cuiathletics.com to watch the live stream of the games.

Transition to NCAA: Academic accountability

Concordia is in the process of transitioning from NAIA to NCAA Division II. Many student athletes are experiencing the changes that come along with this transition.

TAYLOR DENNISON
SPORTS EDITOR
AND
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The university’s transition from the NAIA to NCAA Division II represents a time of excitement, hard work and change. Part of that change includes added monitoring of athletes’ attendance, grades and overall academic standing. While student athlete rules and policies are not a new thing – they are already a part of the student handbook – the monitoring and communication surrounding academics is being enhanced in order to meet the reputable NCAA’s national requirements and policies.

NCAA Faculty Representative Dr. Bret Taylor, Professor of Mathematics, said, “the whole point is that the university wants student athletes to walk away with their degrees and be the best possible athletes they could be.”

With that being said, Taylor emphasized how important it is for students and student athletes to attend their classes. If they are not attending class, they cannot expect to learn anything.

There will be times when students and student athletes do struggle in their classes and may end up with an academic warning. What the university does is look through academic warnings and see what is causing them. Sometimes students may just receive a bad grade or have a bad test score, so the university often gives the students many opportunities to help get their grades back up and turn it around. This includes talking with tutors, coaches, peers or professors who are knowledgeable regarding how to help student athletes.

On the flip side, if student athletes do not seek help and do not attend class, then there is an evident problem that is not being fixed. “Students are not fulfilling their responsibility by going to class or turning in their assignments,” Taylor said. “Going to class is not about the ‘me’ in each athlete, it’s about the ‘we’ because each student athlete is part of a team and a community.” Taylor also said that every student athlete should be thinking to themselves, “Not going to class is not really doing my job as a teammate and not fulfilling my duty to my team.”

The scholarship money that has been given to student athletes comes from generous donors. Regular attendance in class shows the donors that the student athletes are doing the best they can as a student and as an athlete. “Nearly

99 percent of students are doing what the university asks them to and that is showing through their efforts and attendance and communication that what they’re doing, right now in the classroom, is also important,” Taylor said.

Although some student athletes may feel nervous, there is no reason to. Dr. Gary McDaniel, Executive Vice President, Chief Enrollment Officer, ’91, said, “student athletes shouldn’t worry about being held accountable for their academic standing because it’s the same standard we have for all of our students.” Hopefully, this can ease the minds of the athletes who feel uncomfortable with the new regulations, because they really are not new at all.

McDaniel said, “If an athlete or any student works hard and goes to class, they’re going to be fine, and for the most part, athletes who have trouble are those that don’t communicate with the professor, don’t attend class and don’t put in

the effort.”

Related to our athletic program, academics is always first and in the move towards NCAA, it is even more important. “The NCAA slogan is ‘life in the balance,’” McDaniel said, “which simply means academics and athletics are equally important.”

The university has had a policy in place for almost three years regarding academic performance for student athletes. Although the NCAA does have a minimum standard of a 2.0 GPA based on past work to be eligible, the university has held athletes to a higher standard. “We require a 2.5 GPA to remain eligible at our institution, so we’re not raising it because of the NCAA; it’s simply the way it has always been,” McDaniel said.

Athletes do have many opportunities provided to them academically, so they should be taking advantage of them. “I’ve always believed

that academics are a platform by which about 500 of our athletes have gained greater accessibility to achieve their academic goals,” McDaniel said. “While they have the opportunity, they need to take advantage of it.” He also said that sometimes grades can slip as the years progress, so the institution’s and coaches’ responsibility is to help young men and women see the opportunity that is there for them.

There are many benefits to transitioning into NCAA beyond benefits to the athletic program. The athletic population makes up 33 percent of our entire undergraduate population right now. Although the NCAA has a more stringent set of requirements for eligibility, with the new budgets set forth for recruiting, one way it can help is by allowing the university the opportunity to recruit higher caliber students, increase the retention rate and increase the overall GPA of the entire student population.



13th annual Gala of Stars

NATALIE CORONA
STAFF WRITER

On Sat., May 9, Concordia will host the 13th annual Gala of Stars event to raise money for student scholarships. This year's Gala will offer guests an enjoyable night filled with entertainment, fine dining and an auction. It will also double as an award ceremony recognizing one outstanding individual with the annual Lifetime Achievement award.

The event is known for gathering friends, faculty and the community of Concordia in order to raise money for students' future educational and life successes. With the assistance from donors and organizations, students can be provided with scholarships to help pave their way toward an extraordinary future. Last year alone, the event raised \$540,000 from an audience made up of over 400 donors. This year, the Gala is expecting a turnout of anywhere between 400 to 500 people.

The CU Arena will be transformed into a lucrative space filled with draperies, dazzling lights and exquisite centerpieces.

The event will begin at 5 p.m., at which time guests will have the first of two opportunities to participate in a silent auction. They will be able to bid on a wide variety of mini-getaways, entertainment and dining, along with an exciting three-hour boat tour of Gilligan's Island. It will then lead into the main event starting at 6:45 p.m., with musical performances from current students and alumni, under music director Steve Young, followed by dinner, a second auction and award presentations.

"With events like the Gala, Concordia is able to provide an abundant amount of financial support to students."

One of the night's biggest highlights comes from the Lifetime Achievement Award ceremony. The award is presented to a single individual who has made an impact on the world while keeping Christ first throughout his or her journey. Past recipients include famed entertainer Pat Boone and war hero Louis Zamperini, who received this honor a few years ago.

This year, the 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to world-renowned artist, Gerald F. Brommer. Brommer has embodied the definition of what it means to use his faith to impact the world. He is an innovative acrylic and watercolor painter, who serves as a collagist, teacher, author and juror. Every year, he offers over 20 workshops all across the globe from Mexico to Europe to Canada and back here in the States. In his years working as an artist, he has picked up many awards and has his art displayed across the country, but he has also donated several pieces to Concordia which can be seen displayed in Grimm Hall and the Library Arts building.

With events like the Gala, Concordia is able to provide an abundant amount of financial support to students thanks to the generosity of our donors.

Ticket prices for the event start at \$150 and can be purchased through the university's website. Students who wish to volunteer are encouraged to contact LaVeda Carter, Executive Director of Foundation Operations. The event is open to students who wish to serve as entrance greeters, or volunteers to help move items around the gymnasium. If interested in volunteering, please contact Carter at LaVeda.Carter@cui.edu

Hunger Banquet: taking our food for granted

RAYNAH TORENTA
STAFF WRITER

On Wed., Feb. 25, Concordia Cares sponsored their annual Hunger Banquet. As the name of the event may have implied, hungry students showed up ready to eat dinner. What they did not know was that each participant would be separated into social ranks – the lower class, middle class and the upper class, in order to understand how those specific ranks may have dinner on a day-to-day basis. Many students do not realize the fact that only 20 percent of the world gets the privilege of three meals a day, something that we take for granted. Participants at the Hunger Banquet were given a notecard with a name and short description of a realistic character to represent a member of their social rank. Lower class representatives were told to sit on the floor, while the middle class participants sat on chairs and upper class got to sit at a dining room table.

As the students shared their new names and social identities with one another, sophomore Concordia Cares Coordinator Danny Balogh explained a few of the ways that hunger impacts the world and the community in and around Irvine. She said that 80 percent of the world's population is categorized into the middle or lower class income groups, noting that the food we are served each day is often taken for granted. Balogh told stories that pertained to the characters that students were portraying, and showed how easy it can be for individuals to fall below the poverty line.

When dinner was served, the upper class participants were served salad, pasta and even

a cheesecake for dessert. The students with middle class income were given rice and beans, and the lower was given just white rice. Students noticed the drastic difference between the upper and middle class dinners, and the ways in which the full meals the upper class were given are what they are all used to being served both at home and in the cafeteria here at school. Balogh made the connection between the differences in size of dinners, addressing the fact that lower and middle classes may not even be able to afford more than one meal a day.

"I thought the portions they fed us were generous compared to real life families," said Rose Jones, sophomore participant. "The numbers [Balogh] shared of how many people and children are starved in the United States alone is mind blowing," Jones said. Though the concept of hunger throughout the world is thought of as being present in countries characterized by poverty, Concordia Cares wanted participants to understand hunger in families exists right in our Orange County home. "Living in a gated community, you forget about the little things like that," Jones said.

The majority of the participating students were categorized as lower class. As they sat on the floor and dined on their rice, this particular group agreed in a later discussion that their role in the Hunger Banquet felt looked down upon. Since there was not enough rice to go around, students were sharing with one another and tried to ration what they had. This group also reported that they felt more of a connection with one another and there was a deeper sense of community. In real life scenarios, Concordia Cares Faculty Advisor Brianna Springer noted

that this kind of camaraderie would unfortunately probably not occur.

After the dinner, students were asked to analyze and describe the distinctions between the classes. Junior participant Christian Woodfin said that the experience was a big-eye opener to the drop in lifestyle between the upper and middle classes. Students agreed and harmonized in the idea that taking the cafeteria for granted is a crime of its own. While in the city of Irvine it may seem like poverty is nonexistent, it is a very real thing that occurs within the community.

While some Orange County neighbors are not being fed more than once a day, the cafeteria is available to students seven days a week, and yet there are still complaints. Those who participated in the Hunger Banquet agreed that one small thing that students can do in order to make world hunger apparent is to encourage one another to stop complaining about the food served at school and learn to appreciate it.

Another way that students can get involved in helping the community is to volunteer. Concordia Cares suggested South County Outreach, a nonprofit organization that holds monthly service projects aimed at college students. This Saturday at 11:15 a.m., students are heading to Christ Costa Mesa to serve at a food distribution. Students can also research the working conditions of particular brands that are favored, and see how those companies treat their employees. Springer suggested websites that direct researchers to companies who are cruelty-free and promote local manufacturing. Preventing companies that treat their employees badly from having any more business can lead to better working conditions for those workers.

CU Premiere gets two thumbs up



The PALs get excited for our newest Eagles

GARRETT ROLDAN
STAFF WRITER

Concordia University Admissions hosted the annual CU Premiere event on March 28 to give prospective students, along with their parents, the chance to become more familiar with Concordia and expand their knowledge of the campus.

The admissions team, along with their events coordinators, started bright and early at 6 a.m. to prepare for the arrival of the prospective students. The admissions team welcomed students and parents on a red carpet, letting them know that Concordia was happy to welcome them as celebrities for the day.

Assistant Director of Marketing & Communications, Nathan Araya said, "You could see the sense of fulfillment as they were warmly welcomed on the red carpet getting swarmed by

current students taking pictures of them as if it was an actual awards show." Throughout the day, the visiting students and parents had the opportunity to sit down and have lunch with a professor of their future major, enjoy a chapel service and check out the clubs that are on campus.

"The most rewarding thing about this event for me was to see the students that I met at their high schools finally walk on campus at Concordia as an admitted student," Araya said. He said that it was great to see that all of the efforts of the students and their families paid off to a point where they were enjoying their time on campus as an admitted student of Concordia.

There were many students at the CU Premiere who had some uncertainties about their plans next year, such as choosing a major, if they would commute or were just plain nervous for the upcoming school year. Prospective student Emily Montante from Yorba Linda said, "I have

a lot of nerves coming in since I don't know anyone from my area that is going to CUI." To help calm these nerves, the events coordinators had people from all different interests sit together during lunch to break the ice and become more familiar with one another.

With the events wrapping up with a finale in the CU Center, Stephanie Yzaguirre, junior, said, "the most rewarding thing about this event is witnessing the start of new friendships, not only amongst the newly admitted students, but also amongst the different families."

After a long day, parents and students left satisfied and all smiles in beautiful Irvine. The next step in the journey for these students is CU Soon, which is an event put on in the summer for admitted students to meet their roommates and get a better glimpse of what life at Concordia is like. To stay up to date with these events, follow on Instagram and Twitter @ConcordiaUG.

Handbells ringing through Australia

CELINA STRATTON
STAFF WRITER

Next month, the handbell ensembles will be touring Australia for twelve days not only to share beautiful music, but also experience performing internationally as a community.

Though the purpose of music tours is to share the groups' own musical contributions when visiting various churches and schools, tours are also the perfect opportunity to allow music students to travel.

Last year, Faith McKinney, Director of Global Programs, introduced a new program that allows for each music department group to tour abroad every year. The travel rotation started last year with the Concordia Choir performing in Italy for over a week. This year continues with a combination of the handbell ensembles (Concert Handbells and Spirit Bells, along with three Chapel Bells ringers) traveling down under to Australia. Abby Schneider, junior Chair for Concert Handbells, said that—thanks to McKinney—it is accessible for every music student to go abroad.

“These ringers love to play, they love to see things and they love to be together.”

“Students get an amazing experience whether [they perform] in our country or internationally,” said Nancy Jessup, Associate Director of Handbells and Director of Spirit Bells. “I’m looking forward to being with the students and experiencing the environment with them.”

The ringers will travel through north and south Australia, visiting tourist attractions like the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary in Brisbane, the Barossa Valley in Adelaide and the Sydney Opera House.

Touring Australia is a special family event for siblings Erik Der, senior, and Kara Der,

freshman. “To be able to tour out of the country is amazing,” Kara said. “I’m really excited to be experiencing it with my brother.”

Though exploring the country is important, performing for and with churches, schools and communities is still the main priority. “We play in an intentional way that shares God’s word,” Erik said. They will be playing at a minimum of seven different sites within the three major Australian cities.

Because of the variation of audiences, all three handbell groups will be performing a combination of secular and sacred music, including two original Australian-themed pieces composed by twin brothers Alex and Christian Guebert, ’10. The pieces range from Martin Luther’s “A Mighty Fortress” to Pinocchio’s “When You Wish Upon a Star.” Dr. Herbert Geisler, Director of Musical Activities, Music Education and Handbells, said, “It’s orchestra music, church music and fun music. These songs are our gift we can bring to Australia.”

The directors and musicians look forward to sharing their music and encountering the different perspectives on music in the global handbell community. In addition to performing, tours provide a special bonding experience for all of the students. “These ringers love to play, they love to see things and they love to be together,” Geisler said.

After touring for the last three years with handbells, Erik shared that when performing with his friends, there are these perfect moments of harmony he experiences with his fellow ringers. “In these moments I see a glimpse of heaven and I know I will have these moments forever,” Der said.

The musical exchange from this tight-knit group of ringers to the audience is very special and important in all of their performances. Schneider said, “We get the chance to make the message of Christ more approachable.” Erik added, “a lot of people don’t know what handbells can do and the emotions evoked through the dialectic titillation between the audience and performers.”

For more information regarding the handbell ensembles, visit www.cui.edu/academic-programs/undergraduate/music.

-Popbar- Anaheim’s new favorite popsicle place

ABBY PASCUAL
STAFF WRITER

The Anaheim Packing House has been around for almost a year. Now was the time to venture out to taste the special foods from over 20 small restaurants that it has to offer. Their wide varieties of eating spots focus on making food with local, sustainable and/or organic ingredients. My first trip at the Packing House had to be started off with some dessert at Popbar.

Located conveniently just inside the building’s entrance, Popbar attracts hundreds of “sweet tooth” lovers. Literally hundreds, because this line can extend out the door easily on a Saturday night. Other than the long line on a weekend, the waiting was definitely worth my time.

I was greeted by a friendly worker when I finally reached the front. The worker explained how Popbar specializes in handcrafted gelato on a stick made from natural ingredients every day. I just think of it as extravagant popsicles. The endless amount of freedom of choices were all laid out in front of me.

First, I had to choose a flavor. Popsorbetto or Poppelato. Popsorbetto flavors included apricot, blood orange, mixed berry, mango, kiwi, strawberry, pineapple and more. Poppelato had flavors of banana, coconut, coffee, chocolate, green tea, hazelnut, pistachio, peanut butter, vanilla and more. I ended up choosing two: green tea and hazelnut. Why not get two flavors I love!

The freedom did not end there! Up next were the chocolate dippings. There were dark, milk, white and mint dark chocolate dippings. You could fully dip, half dip or drizzle your popsicle with these dippings. I chose to half dip my hazelnut and drizzle my green tea both in the milk chocolate dipping.

Choosing my toppings was the last and final step. Toppings included almonds, hazelnuts, pistachios, coconut, chocolate sprinkles, caramel corn and crushed waffle cone. I chose to add the crushed waffle cone topping.

My own popsicle creations made my night. The popsicles did not melt right away, so they were a clean dessert. Both the Poppelato flavors I chose, green tea and hazelnut, were decadent treats. The green tea had the authentic Japanese taste to it and the hazelnut was beyond creamy and filled my mouth with sweetness. Both had the perfect balance of flavor, not too strong or watered down. All these things make their handcrafted popsicles inexpensive. Prices start at \$4. I felt like Popbar executed what the ultimate popsicle should be like.

“My own popsicle creations made my night.”

I will surely be back as a regular customer after this great experience. I highly recommend not ever settling for less with a boring dessert. Gelato on a stick will always be a fun dessert. Come to Popbar where you can see the endless combinations like I did! You will not get to explore all the possibilities until you are right in front of Popbar’s case. Popbar is located only 30 minutes from Concordia, open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The address of the Anaheim Packing House is 440 S Anaheim Blvd, Anaheim.

Study abroad snapshot: Katrina Alford, junior



Location: London, England
Surprises: I was most surprised by the ability to get pretty much anywhere in the city so easily.
Best Food: Anything from a food market around the city!
Looking Forward To: I’m most excited to meet new people and travel the world while I’m here.

Concordia Wind Orchestra kicked off Passion Week

CHRISTOPHER M. CANTWELL
STAFF WRITER

The Concordia Wind Orchestra (CWO) put on a performance of dramatic peace for the start of Passion week on Sun., March 29 at 7 p.m. in the CU Center. Hundreds of people gathered for the performance, which definitely did not disappoint.

"It was a powerful, hour-long presentation of dramatic music for the start of Passion Week. Being a Lutheran school, we really wanted this production to be great," said senior performer Wesley Barnes.

The CWO is comprised of many different ensembles such as the brass, percussion, clarinet and flute ensembles. Many of the members of the wind orchestra are also in the symphony orchestra. Their recent tour destinations included San Diego, Las Vegas, Northern California, Phoenix, St. Louis and Texas. The mission of the CWO is much more than the ordinary college wind group. Its purposes are evident through its worship services, hymn festivals and sacred

themed concerts. The CWO really strives to serve the church through its liturgical music.

There were almost 30 different members in the riveting performance put on by conductor Dr. Jeff Held, Associate Professor of Music, Director of Instrumental Activities, Chair - Arts Division. "Given that the concert was during the week of Easter, it really fit in. There were songs of Lent, and songs about the Old Testament. I wouldn't have changed anything about it," Held said.

"It was a powerful, hour-long presentation of dramatic music for the start of Passion Week."

The dramatic narrator for the production was Barnes, who was very appreciative of the

opportunity given to him by Held. "I was definitely new to this type of performance, and the confidence and freedom that was given to me was fantastic," Barnes said. Barnes was put in charge of the Akedah performance (Story of Abraham's faith), which was the West Coast premiere of this piece for composer Jesse Ayers.

"It's an awesome feeling that Concordia will be known for the video that the composer shows to people, when describing the particular performance," Barnes said.

"I had never been to a performance like this before and it was really a cool event to experience. Definitely makes me wish that I had attended more put on by this group," said senior Nick Summers.

The CWO practices multiple times a week for its performances each month to ensure they give the best possible sound to the hearers.

The CWO establishes a clarity of sound, expressive style and independent musicianship that only groups of high level musicians achieve.

For more information about the upcoming events and schedules, please look at the CUI website under CWO.

"The 39 Steps" delivers a night of entertainment

MIRANDA LENTZ
STAFF WRITER

Four actors performed 130 characters in just 100 minutes. For the last two weekends of March, the cast of "The 39 Steps" kept audiences on their toes as they delivered joke after joke flawlessly. The result of tireless work since January 2015 was a play that definitely tickled the audience's funny bones.

"The 39 Steps" centers on John Buchan's 1915 novel and Alfred Hitchcock's 1935 movie. The play references some of Hitchcock's works such as "Strangers on a Train," "Rear Window" and "Vertigo."

Jeff Fazakerley, Adjunct Professor of Theatre, directed the show. "The 39 Steps" was chosen due to the size of the cast. Fazakerley said, "The Theatre Department wanted to choose smaller shows because it allows the cast to experience different styles of theater." Farakerley also said, "'The 39 Steps' gave the students a chance to perform a vaudeville-style show, which the students do not have much experience with, because it either has a large amount of production or very little."

The most remarkable aspect of the play is that four actors are practically running the show by themselves. Kyleigh Hoyer, freshman, who played Clown 2, said the cast was responsible for costume changes, prop movement, along with their cues for being on stage, virtually on their own. There were no crewmembers to set the stage; they had to do it. This aspect made her appreciate the people who make productions run smoothly.

Hoyer said that improvisation is a major component of the play. One of the major mishaps was when she had a wardrobe malfunction. Hoyer said, "We almost hope for something to go wrong, because it allows us to see where we can take it." In that mishap, they had to improvise to make it seem like her character was embarrassed that her skirt fell.

Hoyer wants readers to know that "The 39 Steps" conveys the idea that "A movie doesn't have to be a movie. It can be a book or TV show. It switches gender roles and breaks down stereotypes. There are no boundaries or limitations," Hoyer said.

Kendall Davis, junior, starred as Clown 1, whose role included portraying a variety of characters, most memorably the praying Scottish husband. Davis said that he was excited to perform in "The 39 Steps" because he had previously seen scenes and loves how the production "is a unique style of theater that breaks the fourth wall."

Anthony Draper, freshman from England, played the male lead role of Richard Hannay and was the only actor to play the same character throughout the duration of the play. With the comedy set in the United Kingdom, Draper helped explain cultural phrases to the cast. "It was really nice to share about different humor and culture at play," Draper said.

Draper said, "The play has been well received [by the audience]; it's involving for the audience. It is hard to zone out as an audience member." Draper said of comedies and laughter, "Because of how the storyline is portrayed, the humor lets people leave everything at the door and get immersed in a different world."

One of the most memorable scenes of the play is the plane chase, which Draper performs. It reminds the audience about the simplicity of a bed sheet with backlighting and objects used to make shadows, which can make an enormous impact on the viewers.

"It gives people an escape from their own lives and a new release of optimistic energy," said Draper of the play.

"The two main themes of the play are patriotism and romance. So when you have the opportunity to save your country, do it. And when you fall in love, don't call them a 'button-headed little idiot!'" Draper said.

From wardrobe malfunctions to minor electrical burns, to props that are stuck, to a chair leg breaking off, "The 39 Steps" cast thoroughly entertained the audiences through simplicity and humor of theater despite each challenge.

Alex Edelman on to new heights



Alex Edelman, senior

WESLEY BARNES
STAFF WRITER

Alex Edelman wows audiences in performance and inspires the lives of many. Edelman is a senior majoring in Music Education with a minor in Vocal Performance. It is her goal to become a music instructor to high school students. "I want to be a choir director because choir is my passion and God has blessed me with the gift of music," Edelman said.

During her time at CUI, she has been given many opportunities that have helped her grow into the young woman she has become. The biggest thing that has contributed to her experience is being a part of the Concordia Choir for all four of her years here. By being a part of the choir, Edelman has learned how it can help students become better performers, but also help them as individuals. Being a part of a choir that is so closely knit can make students feel like they

are a part of something that is bigger than themselves that is supportive and can help them find their voice.

"All of the music faculty has inspired me to do my best in different aspects and have pushed me to learn to be the best teacher and well-rounded musician I can be," Edelman said.

To bring her collegiate music career to a close, Edelman gave the performance of a lifetime for her senior recital. Performing a vast spread of classical music, it was clear to see the amount of work and dedication she put into her recital by working all semester with her vocal teacher, Dr. Robyn Frey-Monell. Her rich, mezzo voice filled the Good Shepherd chapel and the hearts of everyone in attendance.

"Every time I see her preform, I am amazed by the level of talent she has and how elegant she is when she presents herself," said senior Nathan Stevens. "It's really nice when I get to brag and talk about how talented my friends are." Her recital was a gorgeous glimpse of the entertaining performing artist she has developed into. On

top of showing off her vocal ability, she played a fun piano duet with world class pianist and instructor Patricia Riffel.

After graduating in May, there are many things that this talented artist is looking forward to, but she is most excited about an opportunity to give back. She has been accepted to a program on campus that allows her to travel to China and do what she loves— teach.

"I'm going with seven other Concordia students and faculty to Foshan, China to teach first through seventh grade students (the subjects of) English, music, arts/crafts, history/culture and sports," Edelman said. "I'm hoping to be one who instructs music." In addition to the teaching opportunities they will have, they will also have the opportunity to help teachers there set up classrooms and prepare to educate. This program has been put in place to give students like Edelman an opportunity to use the skills that she has learned, but also because there is a Concordia being built in Foshan that is scheduled to open in August.

Coffeebar Byul: sip and study

“Tokyo Fish Story” performed at SCR

LYNDI ROSDAIL
STAFF WRITER

As a college student, finding the perfect place to study is an endless search. Fortunately, Coffeebar Byul in the Diamond Jamboree Shopping Center is an ideal location for students to study and begin to prepare for finals coming up in the next few weeks. The shop is open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

While the prices are a little steep for the average college student’s budget, the drinks and pastries will not be a decision you regret. The coffee bar has a wide range of drinks that are far from typical. Their espresso drinks range from cappuccinos and americanas to my personal favorites, Iced Gangnam Latte and Iced Shanghai Latte. The Gangnam latte is a smooth, creamy and exceptionally sweet hot beverage with a bold coffee flavor. The Shanghai is similar, but has cinnamon and nutmeg that leave you wanting more each time you put it down.

Coffeebar Byul has other specialty drinks including frappés, pour-over coffees and manual steep teas. Some of their blended frappés include the Vanilla Chai Tea Frappé and the Maui Mocha Frappé. They have a variety of different pour-over coffees such as Lake Tawar and Decaf Mexico. Their manual steep teas are perfect for relaxing and writing papers late at night or catching up with friends. A few of their manual steep teas include the Moroccan Mint tea,

French Lemon Ginger tea and Tali’s Masala Chai tea. For those looking for a refreshing coffee-free drink, the Mint Green Tea Lemonade is also delicious. It is tangy, sweet and spicy all at the same time, perfect for a sunny day out at the beach.

If you are looking for a sweet or savory treat with your coffee, the daily baked goods will not let you down. The ham and cheese croissant is warm and flaky with cheese spilling out the sides. You may not be able to get back to your table before taking a bite.

The baristas at Coffeebar Byul are friendly and helpful. The service is quick, although you may have trouble finding a place to sit, depending on what time of day you come. The center around Coffeebar Byul is generally pretty busy since it is filled with popular restaurants and shops.

The shop itself is clean and decorated tastefully, yet is simple, which adds to its modern charm. Coffeebar Byul in Diamond Jamboree opened in mid-January of last year and the owners of the coffee shop plan on opening a second location in Culver Plaza, which will take over the old location of “It’s a Grind.” The second location will be about the same distance from school as their current location. For more information, follow them at #coffeebarbyul on Instagram, Twitter or Facebook, or visit their website at coffeebarbyul.com.

MARNIE SALVANI
STAFF WRITER

I am living the life! I went to the South Coast Repertory (SCR) and I got to sit in a balcony seat like one of those sophisticated rich people you always see in LA or New York. I need to find one of those little binoculars on a stick people use to watch plays.

I watched “Tokyo Fish Story” by Kimber Lee. While the title does not do the play any favors, I thoroughly enjoyed the performance. The play is set in Tokyo and follows the story of a sushi restaurant and the staff that runs it. There are also many mentions of fish. For the record, I was compelled to get some sushi after viewing the play.

The play was directed by Bart DeLorenzo, who has premiered several plays on the SCR stage. The cast was made up of five actors, but two actors played multiple characters, similar to the actors in “The 39 Steps” at Concordia. The costume changes and changes in personality were surprising to watch, like a magic trick.

The lighting and soundtrack also made the small stage transform into larger-than-life scenes. If there’s one thing theater is good at, it is making drama. From the very beginning, the music created an atmosphere of Japanese tradition. The music began playing as the audience sat in the theater and waited for the play to start. John Zawelski, the sound designer, chose simple

music that played at key moments of the play to evoke emotion and highlight the performances of the actors.

Lighting Designer Elizabeth Harper managed to make sushi creation into a spectacle. The actors mimed making the sushi, but the mood lighting and projections across the stage created another world. The drum beats, the red lighting, and the controlled movements of the actors made it seem like a secret ritual was taking place. I looked at the other audience members, seeing if they were just as amazed as I was.

The real star of the production is the scene designer, Neil Patel. The play was performed in a small theater, but the set design made excellent use of the limited space. The kitchen area and dining area were on movable platforms that easily slid on and off the stage. In the back, an upper area would show Koji bicycling across the stage going to the market.

I was also very intrigued that the entire cast was Asian-American. Considering the subject matter and setting of the play, I am not surprised. But in my experience watching college plays, it is a rarity for a cast to fully consist of minorities.

Overall, tickets are a bit on the expensive side. I paid \$20 for mine, and I had a discount for being a student. However, the quality of the play and the theater made “Tokyo Fish Story” worth it. Just do not forget your student ID card.

For more information about upcoming plays and tickets at the SCR, visit scr.org.

“Furious 7”:

The unofficial “Avengers”

JONATHAN SERRANO
STAFF WRITER

Last Fri., April 3, *Marvel* released yet another superhero movie with “Furious 7” to begin the summer blockbuster season. Oh wait, this was not a *Marvel* production? “Furious 7” was such a marvelous action extravaganza that it is easy to forget that the characters do not have superpowers.

“Furious 7” contained all the elements we have come to expect from the franchise. As a fan from the start, I was definitely not disappointed (although it fell a little short of the previous two films). Also, there was the big issue that I waited for the film to resolve: the issue of the untimely death of Paul Walker.

Walker’s death occurred while the film was mid-production. This called for the whole film to be put into question and the story to be rewritten. Considering the circumstances, the film came out amazing. It was a proper send off for Walker. Director James Wan yanked on the heartstrings with a highlight of Walker’s career in the franchise to conclude the film. Not every actor gets a send-off like this, but that just speaks to the kind of person Walker was.

Bringing the focus back to the film itself, the Avengers – sorry, I mean crew – are being hunted by Deckard Shaw (Jason Statham). Shaw is the brother of the previous film’s villain. Revenge plot: check. Statham is a powerful force in the film. His level of intensity for the fight scenes makes us feel that there is a legitimate threat in every encounter.

Brian (Paul Walker), Dom (Vin Diesel), Letty (Michelle Rodriguez), and Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) all have a major one vs. one fight scene. Dom and Hobbs each have a fight with Shaw, Letty fights Kara (Ronda Rousey), and Brian fights Kiet (Tony Jaa). The caliber of action stars is up there with the Avengers, but with real life fighters (Ronda Rousey being an undefeated UFC champion and Tony Jaa being considered the modern Bruce Lee). These names alone paint the picture of how this film plays out. Add in the expected ridiculousness of a “The Fast & the Furious” movie, there is not much else to say other than if you enjoyed the franchise’s formula before, you will love this.

While the fighting is cool and the stunts for them are amazing, people really came to see what the film could do next with all the cars. The trailers seem like they give away a lot in that

area, but there was so much more. If you count the amount of time the cars are on the ground and compare it to the amount of time they are in the air, there will not be much of a difference. If you are asking yourself, “Is that completely necessary?” The answer is yes. The over-the-top action, amount of suspense and the “shut up and watch” mentality are all necessities when it

comes to a film like this. If you are a fan of the franchise, then that is what you have come to love and would not want it any other way.

If you were wondering whether or not the franchise will live on after this film due to the death of Paul Walker, there is already planning done for a new trilogy of the movies. This came easy with introduction of a new character, Mr.

Nobody (Kurt Russell). “The Avengers” have Nick Fury appointing them missions and now the “The Fast & the Furious” crew has Mr. Nobody. I am excited for the future of the franchise. I know what I am going into with each “The Fast & the Furious” movie and that is fine. Just sit back and enjoy them for the action blockbusters they are.



Women’s Basketball competes at Nationals

BEN FUEGER
STAFF WRITER

With a commanding 61-51 win against William Jessup University in the GSAC Tournament on March 4, the Women’s Basketball Team cemented their position for a run at a national championship.

For the first time since 1997, the team clinched a spot in the National Tournament in a match against Carroll College. Senior guard Carly Bishop was able to take it all in as only the best 32 teams play in one big arena under the bright lights with an intense atmosphere. “It doesn’t get much better than that,” Bishop said.

With what ended up being a demanding 59-48 win against Carroll, the Lady Eagles made history as the first women’s basketball squad since Concordia’s inception to win a game at

Nationals.

Next, the Eagles were up against Bethel University out of St. Paul, Minn. in what turned out to be a nail-biter of a game until the very end. The Eagles ultimately fell one point short in overtime and lost 86-85. Alana Allensworth, junior guard, said, “the game against Bethel was a roller coaster [of a ride]. We had plenty of opportunities to win throughout the game, but we were just not able to capitalize off of those opportunities and that’s what it came down to.” With the game going back and forth, senior forward Basha Almadova saw the time dwindling down, as they just could not seal the deal. “We fought hard until the end, but it is heart-breaking knowing that Bethel did not beat us; we beat ourselves,” Almadova said.

Although the team suffered such an impactful loss, they still were able to look back and see

how far they had come. Allensworth said, “We grew a lot, we started to rely on each other, recognize one another’s strengths and weaknesses and at points when we were down, we could regain focus and unite to accomplish what needed to be done.” But for Almadova, Bishop and fellow fourth year senior guard Katie Ogdon, the goal was common. “It was very special. All we’ve wanted since we came to Concordia was to get to Nationals and have a chance to win a title. Being able to do that our last year was such an awesome feeling,” Bishop said.

With that common goal in place, Allensworth said, “Playing in the National Tournament was honestly the best experience. I have never felt so excited and ready to play a game before.” Walking into the arena for the first time is such a great feeling for any athlete, knowing their hard work is about to pay off. “The adrena-

line rush was crazy and everyone [on my team] knew we were going to win that first game there. After that, you just knew,” Allensworth said. “That feeling I experienced is what every athlete lives for.”

For Allensworth, Bishop, Ogdon and Almadova, the trip to Nationals will be something that they can cherish for a lifetime. “As a team, and a team with purpose, nothing outside could tear us apart. Knowing that everything we had worked for was finally coming together, it was our time to show the world what Concordia University Women’s Basketball was all about,” Almadova said.

The Lady Eagles look forward to starting their adventure in the NCAA and to see their team keep growing and getting better as the competition rises.

Young editor inspires students

KENDRA SITTON
ARTS AND REVIEWS EDITOR

Taryn Albright, a young expert YA (Young Adult)/NA (New Adult) Editor, came to Concordia’s campus to explain the modern publishing business to students on Thurs., March 27. She was invited to speak in Thea Gavin’s, Professor of English, Writing for Children and Teenagers class, but many other students came from a variety of majors to hear how they could become a published author.

Albright gave a thorough explanation of the difference between agents, publishers, editors and other steps in the publication process. Other tips included harnessing the power of Twitter to find readers of the first draft of a story.

While interning under one of the top agents in America, Albright quickly learned that only 1 percent of stories submitted by aspiring authors are asked to have the full manuscript sent to the agent. Of that small portion, only a few are selected by the agent to be sent on to publishing houses. Despite this daunting statistic, Albright

urged students not to take the self-publishing or indie publishing route just to have a smoother experience. Although those options are good for some authors who are great at self-promotion, they should never be selected out of fear.

Albright receives manuscripts for editing daily and is booked for months from now. When she receives these drafts, one thing she looks for is change. “You don’t look for great writing, you just make sure the writing doesn’t jump out to you as bad. What we mostly look for is change. A lot of people start with action and they’re like, I want to kill people, things are going to explode! But you don’t want explosions, you want constant change throughout a manuscript. That’s what creates a plot that will compel people to read it,” Albright said.

“I’m hoping it was encouraging for (students) to see a role model only a few years ahead of them – what this person has done in terms of internships, jobs, making connections, going to conferences,” Gavin said. One of the most impressive things about Albright’s resume is that although she graduated from college last spring, she already has a successful editing

business, had worked in publishing houses and interned with agents, as well as having her own agent who is working on publishing Albright’s writings.

Anthony Draper, a freshman writer who attended, was surprised when he saw how tedious finishing the first draft to getting it published can be, but was also impressed by Albright’s achievements. “I thought she was pretty incredible, how she’s doing a lot of very successful work in that field and she’s only 22. It was pretty cool seeing someone that dedicated and passionate and successful,” Draper said.

Like many members of the writing community, Albright has a full-time job outside of her independent work. As a show writer for the Disneyland parks, Albright works on a variety of projects from writing a play for the Disney cruise line to the welcoming speech upon entering the park, which fascinated Kyleigh Hoyer, freshman. Hoyer has an interest in publishing novels in the future which is why she attended the session, but already one of her plays will be performed this summer at a theater festival in Northern California.

One major mistake Albright thinks college students make is not reading what is being published now for children and young adults. Often, they rely on what was written when they were children, when in fact, that is no longer what agents are looking for. “They need to be in love with what’s coming out now,” Albright said. Research and revisions are also part of the long road to publishing. “Know that the end is not the end,” Albright said. She also said that the problem is not usually with fixing one sentence, but with fixing a much bigger problem. She says that college students should not be discouraged by this though because most of the six-figure publishing deals are being made to 22-year-olds.

Albright was able to detail the modern publishing world to many students who now know where to start once their novels are finished. For more information on Albright, visit her blog at tarynalbright.com, follow her on Twitter or visit her editing website at thegirlwiththegreenpen.com.



**THIS SUMMER
SEE YOU AT THE**

COAST!

**OCC HAS THE CLASSES
YOU WANT**

SAVE TIME, SAVE MONEY

OCC Course			Courses that may transfer to Concordia as		
ACCT	A101	Financial Accounting	ACT	211	Financial Accounting
ACCT	A102	Managerial Accounting*	ACT	212	Managerial Accounting
ANTH	A100	Cultural Anthropology	ANTH	210	Cultural Anthropology
ART	A107	Introduction to Art	ART	101	Experience in Art
ART	A120	Beginning Drawing	ART	201	Drawing 1
CMST	A100	Public Speaking	COM	111	Public Speaking
ECON	A170	Microeconomics*	ECO	202	Microeconomics
ECON	A175	Macroeconomics*	ECO	201	Macroeconomics
ENGL	A100	Freshman Composition*	WRT	102	Writing and Research
HLED	A100	Personal Health	ESS	101	Ed for Healthful Living
HMDV	A180	Child Growth and Development	PSYC	313	Dev. Psych: Childhood
MATH	A160	Introduction to Statistics*	MTH	265	Introduction to Statistics
MATH	A180	Calculus 1*	MTH	271	Calculus 1
MATH	A185	Calculus 2*	MTH	272	Calculus 2
MUS	A100	Hist & Appreciation of Music	MUS	101	Experiences in Music
PSYC	A100	Introduction to Psychology	PSYC	101	Intro to Psychology
SOC	A100	Introduction to Sociology	SOC	101	Intro to Sociology
THEA	A100	Introduction to Theatre	THR	101	Experiences in Theatre

*Prerequisite required



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