Amazon Delivery Robots are Coming!

BY ANDREW WYLIE

Just last September, Amazon became the second company ever to be valued at over a trillion dollars. Their owner and founder, Jeff Bezos is the richest man alive. So when Amazon announced a new patent on a Robotic delivery testing project called the Amazon Scout, it could possibly change home delivery as we know it in the near future.

The Scout prototype is the size of a small cooler and looks like a cross between a Boston Scientific project and something that you might see roaming the moon’s surface. It is currently being tested as a last-mile sidewalk delivery robot. It would leave a truck with your goods securely locked inside, and travel very slowly down your sidewalk, up your driveway, and possibly right into your home.

Amazon has recently and quite famously tested the delivery of packages through the use of flying drones. On paper, that would appear to be a little more economical, plus it would keep package delivery a little more discreet and out of the way of human and vehicle traffic. But with the strict flight rules that have begun to pop up all around the country regarding drones, the idea has hit a wall.

Amazon announced that they will be testing six new Scout prototypes in a single neighborhood in Snohomish County, Washington. These Scouts will only work Monday through Friday, during business hours and will be accompanied by a human companion for now. Picture someone walking their dog, except the dog is made of metal and has your recent online purchases inside its stomach.

There is a lot of testing that still needs to be done, and many questions that need to be answered. Among them, Can they avoid theft attempts? Can they navigate through busy streets safely without endangering property, pets, or us? Are they able to bring packages faster, for a lower delivery fee? How would they get through our gates, doors, and steps? Can they work in 50 below wind chills?

Wired magazine asked Brian Gerkey, CEO of Open Robotics about the feasibility of autonomous delivery, who had this to say, “This is such a new space that the economics of it haven’t been fully worked out. It’s a market that has yet to be validated,” adding, “You’ve seen a lot of startups working on this, but I think there’s always been this question of whether it’s going to make economic sense. It’s tough to beat the capabilities of a person who goes around doing that last-mile delivery.”

Yet, it is not hard to imagine robots navigating the streets in large numbers. Possibly taking over some of our more labor intensive chores outside, just as they have done in our factories and warehouses over the last thirty-some years. With a company carrying as much capital and power as Amazon, it is a future that may come sooner rather than later. You may soon have mindless autonomous six-wheeled robots going in every direction and in every neighborhood, as numerous as squirrels. We will see how they do, tolerating the Minnesota winters. Only time will tell.

A Brief History of Black History Month

BY BROOKE STEIGAUF

I remember walking into my fourth grade classroom in early February and being handed a two-inch square of colored paper. I settled into my desk and quickly noticed that there were two different kinds of paper that I could have been given. Those that had green were granted candy, extra work time, the front of the line, and many other privileges that those with purple could not have. It was clear and even explicitly explained from the start that this was a message about discrimination, a concept that was not new.
to anyone and was a reality to some. An emotional response was provoked in each of us. To some, like myself, it was an awakening, an experience of deeper understanding. Intense discussion concluded the day and a sense of empowerment was instilled in each of us ten-year-olds to help everyone gain what should be inherently theirs from birth.

Carter G. Woodson is a name I had not heard of until writing this article. Generally speaking, he was an American historian and educator, but he is credited with creating the foundation of the Black History Month that we celebrate currently.

Like many who came before and after him, Woodson noticed that the textbooks that he read in his undergraduate and graduate degree programs told an inaccurate history, either neglecting African Americans participation in it almost entirely or only telling the white man’s side. He and Jesse E. Moorland created what is known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) to provide a means for education and celebration of the African American perspective and progression in 1915.

Less than ten years after that, Woodson and the association initiated an official week in February dedicated to promoting curriculum on African American history. While it caught on quickly across many schools, “The most popular textbook [of the mid-1960s] for eighth-grade U.S. history classes mentioned only two black people in the entire century of history that had transpired since the Civil War,” according to Time Magazine. Within the following decade however, colleges and universities put forth effort to create the week into a month-long celebration.

Education on the history of the African American struggle and achievements will never lose power or importance. It is only through it that we will remember the persecution that an entire body of people faced and achievements will never lose power or importance. It is only through it that we will remember the persecution that an entire body of people faced and endured, from which they are still healing and experiencing in both new and old ways. “Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” -Malcolm X †

Crisis in Venezuela

BY ETHAN LANGEMO

Nicolas Maduro’s presidential reign in Venezuela has been scourged with poverty and famine since he took office in 2013, inheriting the country after the death of dictator Hugo Chavez in that same year. Maduro, who was a bus driver prior to getting involved in government under Chavez, blamed Venezuela’s economic crash on sabotage by political enemies but has consistently failed to suspect his own socialist economic policies. He has been scrutinized by the opposing party of gradually shifting towards an authoritarian state, which has been shown through declining human rights, extreme food scarcity, and a tight police presence.

On April 20, 2018, Maduro won a re-election for the presidency, met with suspicion of voter fraud. On January 23rd, Juan Guaido, the leader of the opposing party the National Assembly, swore himself into office, using articles which specify the legality of the leader of the assembly becoming president if a “usurper” wins the office. Since then, protests erupted across Venezuela, as they had been for six years beforehand, and Maduro has had many words for the opposition. Yet, the people he rebukes continue to die because his policies fail to provide them with food. Maduro has rejected humanitarian aids to his country, stating, “We are not beggars.” He has blocked many roads going into the country, preventing help from coming in — as well as people from getting out. This kind of behavior is reminiscent of the USSR’s rejection of American financial aid during the cold war when communism wreaked death upon its nations.

Guaido made a plea to the Venezuelan military to allow aid efforts to cross through the borders: “Soldiers of the fatherland: We need the humanitarian aid to come, for your mother, your sister and all your family.”

The prime minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, stated that he would be giving over $53 million in humanitarian aid. The Lima Group, a collection of thirteen western nations including Canada, has also called upon the UN and the world to provide relief.

The time has come for countries around the world to take a stand against Maduro. The Trump administration has put the US in support of the opposition leader and recognizes Guaido as the rightful president, as have several EU nations and a few South American nations. America has also put pressure on Maduro by pressing economic sanction with the country, especially on oil, in which the US is Venezuela’s largest customer and makes up about 90% of the entire country’s income. A few countries have shown their support for Maduro, including Russia and China. Pope Francis stated that he wishes to see a peaceful resolution to the conflict but has not confirmed that he supports Guaido.

It will be a big point in history for Venezuela regardless of how this story ends. Either they will continue to have a president-turning-dictatorship, or they will have a leader who will seek to help the humanitarian crisis. It will also be an awakening of seeing which countries are willing to fight for freedom in the world. †

Looming Shutdown

BY VICTORIA TURCIOS

February 15th is looming ahead of us and so is the threat of a shutdown happening again for the United States government. Thirty-five days and 800,000 unpaid federal workers will go down in history as the longest-ever federal shutdown, a result of a standoff between the sitting President and Congress over the payment to build a border wall. The impacts of the shutdown weren’t only obvious to the workers who weren’t getting paid, but the results were evident in the economy as well.

The uncertainty of the government shutdown was riled by those stepping up to help the workers in need. Anti-hunger advocates as well as other groups, and even restaurateurs worked together to ensure that federal employees who had no pay but had mouths to feed would continue to have proper access to food.

ABC News as well as The Washington Post reported how cities such as Tampa, Chicago, Rochester, Minnesota, and Ogden expanded their hours for furlough or working without pay would be financially burdened once more. The W ashington Post had no pay but had mouths to feed would continue to have proper access to food.

The Daily, a Bustle Digital Group online publication, shared some views on what would happen if the looming government shutdown on February 15th becomes a reality. “800,000 federal employees who were out of work on furlough or working without pay would be financially burdened once more. For the lowest-paid workers who were out of a job for a month, there is no salary to be recouped, and a second shutdown would likely leave them scrambling to make ends meet.”

While those who were public servants through their employment with the government are eligible for backpay, the ones who care for facilities and do contract work aren’t, further putting a strain on federal workers across the board. As the countdown to shutdown continues, the stock market is also bracing itself already in case that the second shutdown under Trump’s presidency occurs.

Continued on pg. 4
On January 10th, 2019, 88 days after her disappearance, Jayme Closs saved the seventh grader’s safe return. Her family celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas for her parent’s was held. Her family celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas the Jennie-O Turkey Store, where Denise and James Closs worked, doubled the reward amount to $50,000 to find their late co-worker’s beloved daughter. Soon after, a $25,000 reward was offered by the FBI for any useful information. Soon after, the FBI, the nation’s search for the young girl began.

Over 2,000 volunteers joined in ground searches to find any clue that might lead to Jayme. Although items were recovered and tips were sent in from all over the U.S., nothing helped lead authorities to her location. On October 24th, a $25,000 reward was offered by the FBI for any useful information. Soon after, the Jennie-O Turkey Store, where Denise and James Closs worked, doubled the reward amount to $50,000 to find their late co-worker’s beloved daughter.

While the search for Jayme continued, her location still unknown, a funeral for her parent’s was held. Her family celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas without her, and the City of Barron held a “Tree of Hope” lighting ceremony in honor of their young friend and neighbor. The nation searched and prayed for the seventh grader’s safe return.

On January 10th, 2019, 88 days after her disappearance, Jayme Closs saved herself after escaping from her abductors home and running through the woods to a neighbor’s house. Wearing a long sleeve t-shirt and giant sneakers on the wrong feet, she ran to a woman walking her dog who led her to safety and alerted authorities. Approximately twenty minutes after the initial 911 call, police found and arrested her abductor 21-year-old Jake Patterson, who was found driving around the area looking for Jayme after discovering her missing from his isolated home in Gordon, Wisconsin. Patterson was charged with two counts of homicide and one count each of kidnapping and armed burglary.

Patterson claimed he saw Jayme get on a school bus near her home one day and decided that he was going to take her. After two failed attempts at kidnapping Jayme due to there being cars in the driveway, as Patterson recalled, he approached the Closs home on October 15th with terrible intentions.

At approximately one o’clock in the morning, Jayme woke up to her dog barking and noticed car lights in her driveway. After she alerted her parents, her dad took guard at the front door and Jayme and her mother hid in the bathroom in a bear hug. Patterson shot through the front door, killing James Closs. He went to the bathroom where he told Denise to put tape over Jayme’s mouth. Patterson then shot Denise and tied up Jayme and took her to his remote cabin in the woods. After witnessing a horrific tragedy Jayme was held hostage underneath a twin sized bed in the basement of Patterson’s cabin. Patterson barricaded the bed with heavy boxes so Jayme could not escape.

After 88 days, Jayme found the strength to save herself when Patterson told her he was going to be gone for a long period of time. That’s when Jayme pushed the heavy boxes away from the bed, put on a pair of Patterson’s shoes, and ran through the brisk January air until she found help. After an examination and brief questioning, the brave young girl was reunited with her family and her dog. Nearly a month after her return, her hometown is still celebrating her return as Jayme is adapting to her new life.

Jayme Closs Abducted and Found

By Zack Moeller

An Attack On Jussie Smollett, An Attack On Many

In the early hours of January 29th, Jussie Smollett, the American singer, photographer, director, and actor of the critically acclaimed TV show Empire was the victim of an alleged attack fueled by hate crime in the streets of Chicago near his home. According to various news sources such as CNN, CBS Chicago, and Fox, the case is still undergoing investigation but the police are still lacking street footage of the attack. While more footage is still being reviewed, CBS Chicago reported that what authorities do have at this time is a video of Smollet walking into an apartment building with what looks like a noose around his neck.

Smollett spoke out to ET, an entertainment and celebrity news source, about the attack for those who were skeptical to make clear that it was in fact a hate crime, and also assured fans that some details about the attack had been over exaggerated such as his ribs being broken.

Through a FOIA request (Freedom of Information Act), CNN obtained a redacted report stating that Smollett told police officers, “As he was walking to his residence, two unknown males approached him and gained his attention by saying verbatim “Empire Fa*%t n**.*er.” Although the report states that Smollet didn’t remember any specific features or where they ran off to after the attack, it raises awareness of the fact that hate crimes investigated by the FBI rose seventeen percent in 2018 from previous years, according to the Human Rights Campaign (HRC). The effects of hate crimes trickle down further than just the victim that is targeted, this affects their friends and family as well as the entire community that the individual is a part of or identifies with.

According to the HRC the attack on Jussie Smollett has ignited a conversation nationwide on the disproportionate violence that targets black people, religious minorities, and LGBTQ people. In attempts to confront this epidemic of violence, the HRC is asking people to “explicitly name racisms impact on this country and the ways that intersecting oppressions deprive LGBTQ people of color of their fundamental rights to safely and authentically live, love and thrive.”

As a source for anyone who is a victim or knows anyone who is a victim of hate crimes, the HRC is also sharing tips on things to keep in mind when faced with a situation like this. These include 1) Get medical help, if necessary 2) Write down all of the details of the crime as soon as possible after the incident 3) File reports 4) Reach out for support.

While the star, Jussie Smollett, stated that he was fine and recuperating, the case is far from over. The police have mentioned to Fox that they will go through all the footage they’ve confiscated to try and reconstruct what happened to Smollet on the early hours of January 29th, and are withholding information from the public until they’re certain of what they have.

In an exclusive interview with Out in 2016, Smollett shared a few words that were powerful then and even more so now after his attack with the current state of our nation, “I don’t believe that we were created to hate. I believe that we were created only to love. Love is the root of the happiest of times and of wars. Love, or lack of love—but love is the root of everything.”

Minnesota DHS Reports Major Data Breach

By Zack Moeller

The personal data of more than 21,000 Minnesotans may have been compromised following a data breach affecting the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The breach happened during the summer at the end of June and beginning of July when two employees of the DHS clicked on a link in a phony email that gave hackers access to patient
information accessible by the two employees. This means the hackers may have obtained access to patient’s social security numbers, phone numbers, medical information, and much more.

Low income Minnesotans on medical assistance were the main group affected by the breach, but the over 20,000 possibly compromised customers weren’t notified that their private information may have been released to hackers until over four months after the breach.

In a meeting of state officials, outrage over the whole situation was plentiful as senators grilled Leah Fligare, the chief privacy official for the DHS. “Could you please try and help us connect why there was such a failure here of four months before folks were notified of the compromising situation of their private data?” asked Sen. Mary Kiffmeyer, (R) Big Lake.

Fligare responded by insisting that the DHS did everything in their power to respond to the situation once they learned of the hack. “We worked as hard as we could, certainly moving forward we’ll try to figure out how to move even faster but certainly it wasn’t for a lack of diligence on the part of DHS to get those individual notifications out,” Fligare said.

According to the DHS, upon learning of the phishing scheme, Minnesota IT secured the accounts and stopped the spread of the emails. In a statement about the hack the department said, “We currently have no evidence that the information was actually clicked, viewed, downloaded, or misused.” Unfortunately, this is not the first major data breach that the state has experienced. In 2013 the state suffered two separate data breaches, both involving state employees. The first involved an employee who managed to access the motor vehicle records of more than 5,000 people without having authorization. The second involved a Minnesota worker who accidentally sent out the names and social security numbers of over 2,400 insurance agents.

The DHS had this to say, “The Minnesota Department of Human Services takes very seriously our responsibility to protect the private information and data of Minnesotans and will continue our vigilant efforts to uphold the highest standards of IT security and data privacy.” Still, many are not left feeling that their privacy is secure. †

Puerto Rico Service Trip
BY ELHAM MOHAMUD

Every year, the CSP C.A.L.L. Center allows students to propose a service trip that they would like to lead for the following school year. This year, a group of ten traveled to Puerto Rico to volunteer with All Hands and Hearts in Yabucoa to repair homes that were damaged by Hurricane Maria, an event that took place over sixteen months ago. Yabucoa was the first city that Hurricane Maria hit, affecting over 37,000 residents. These residents went without power or easy access to food or water for weeks and still today, there are parts of Yabucoa in the mountains that are unreachable. All Hands and Hearts began their mission in Yabucoa in January of 2017 and they don’t have an end date in sight.

CSP students spent five full days in the city of Yabucoa. The days began with a 6:00 a.m. wake-up call with the work day ending at 4:30 p.m. Participants spent their time repairing roofs of local houses and school buildings, as well as removing mold to make these spaces liveable for the people of Yabucoa.

From the very first day, the people at All Hands and Hearts, and the local community, welcomed the CSP volunteers and others with open arms. All of the families would cook lunch for the volunteers, spending an hour out of their day to thank us for the work that we were doing. The overwhelming sense of gratitude, pride, and adversity. Co-leader on this trip Anthony Herr said, “This experience made me cherish and appreciate the people I have around me and opportunities I have access to.” I like, Anthony was overwhelmed with my experience at All Hands and Hearts and the people in Yabucoa, every single person I met was there for a purpose and that was to give back to a community that has been devastated and forgotten by the United States and it allowed me to understand the many options there are to help. When a natural disaster occurs it seems like everything is so far away that there isn’t much you can do besides send your thoughts, however, with organizations like All Hands and Hearts makes it easier to give back.

If this service trip proved anything it is to always go outside of your comfort zone. If you’re reading this and want to lead or attend a service trip, absolutely go for it. †

Alexandra Ocasio-Cortez Moved Forward with Climate Change Deal
BY HALLE MARTIN

Democratic representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez is pushing for a cleaner economy with her proposed Green New Deal. At this time, there are few details but much discussion surrounding the young congresswoman’s proposal, but Ocasio-Cortez is prepared to take her plan a step further. On February fourth, she announced that the outline for the resolution will be released within the next week, heating up an already hot topic and making headlines.

What we currently know is that the Green New Deal is a decade-long plan that will combat the effects of climate change and greenhouse gas emissions, leading to sustainable energy, new and better job opportunities, and an overall cleaner environment. In Ocasio-Cortez’s announcement of the future proposal she states, “In it, we call for a national, social, industrial and economic mobilization at a scale not seen since World War II.”

While plenty of lawmakers have already begun to back the congresswoman’s proposal, it is not without its naysayers. Many conservatives worry of the estimated 2–7 trillion dollars it could cost to put the Green New Deal into effect. It is incredibly unlikely that the President, Donald Trump, will allow this deal to continue forward. However, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez seems to be pushing her proposal at just the right time as we head into the 2020 elections, finding supporters in upcoming candidates.

Whether the Green New Deal will pass or not, it is likely we will continue to see many proposals for a cleaner America. With continuous studies, such as The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s findings on climate raising beyond dangerous levels by 2030, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's report that the last five years have seen the warmest climate in history, Ocasio-Cortez will not be the last to propose resolutions such as the Green New Deal. We can count on seeing this battle between opposing sides continue into the next few years and what will likely become a hot topic in the upcoming presidential elections. †
Social Media: A Politician’s Double-Edged Sword

BY VICTORIA TURCIOS

As the gap widens between younger and older generations in a variety of topics and ideologies, the big elephant in the room is the conversation about politics. According to the Pew Research Center, this is not only dividing Millennials and Generation X, but even the older groups of Baby Boomers and the Silent Generation. While young voters access media and news in a much different manner than their counterparts, Forbes stated in 2016 that this generation has continued to gain interest in politics and social issues. This has continued to be proven true, restating the question as to whether politicians should be expected to connect with these voters through social media.

ThoughtCo expressed an interesting take on how social media has made politicians more accountable and accessible. In ten phrases, they stated how this was changing the political game. A few of my biggest takeaways were the following:

1) Direct Contact With Voters
2) Advertising Without Paying For Advertising
3) Controversy
4) The Power of Many.

This comes as no surprise to the researchers behind the Millennial Impact Project, who focused on this generation’s approach to fearlessly contribute to causes they care about. Although their research focused on cause marketing, politics have become a game of both politics and causes. They stated that the involvement by the generation “could mean the success or failure of social movements into the near future.”

In 2016, AdWeek shared an interview with Nicole Stavola of The Pita Group. During which, she stated that if brands didn’t reflect the perception or experiences of their consumers, then their authenticity would suffer. A relationship nurtured in trust and transparency has become a key component when trying to obtain the attention and support of Millennials. This results in a positive outlook for politicians looking to amp up their social media game for 2020 and future elections. No matter what side of the aisle you support, the impact of social media used by politicians is clearer than ever. The Twitter habits of Donald Trump have shaped his political career since the day he started campaigning, and this has become a double-edged sword for the 45th president of the United States.

The NY Times reported that the attention his social media posts brought on helped propel him to victory in 2016. In addition, democratic candidates thrived in the 2018 midterm elections, and this seems to have been connected to their use of social media as well. The NYT’s research showed that by using Facebook and Instagram to stay in tune with their target audience of voters resulted in democrats having the upper hand during the midterm elections.

At the end of the day, whether it’s votes or engagement statistics, gaining the attention of voters of any age is a game of numbers, and if politicians are looking to make it to the White House or judicial branches in the coming years, they’ll need to have as much support on their side as possible, virtually or in person. 

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Covington Catholic: A Reminder of our Role in Media-Consumption

BY ETHAN LANGEMO

On January 18th, 2019, a group of boys from Covington Catholic High School in Kentucky attended the March for Life in Washington D.C., and later a video exploded across the internet which showed those same boys allegedly harassing Nathan Phillips, a Native American protestor.

Phillips, the recipient of the hate caught on video, is an ex-United States marine. He claims the boys stood in his way and were yelling things such as “Trump 2020,” and, “Build a wall.” Neither of those cheers could be heard in any part of the viral one-minute video, nor in the longer two-hour video which completely shifted the story of what happened that day.

Nick Sandmann, the main figure in the video wearing the iconic MAGA hat, rejected any accusation of his actions being racist. In the full video, the boys were first confronted by an extremist group known as the Black Hebrew Israelites, who share and express hate for everyone from Whites, to Jews, to homosexuals. They were calling the boys indecent names such as “cracker” and “faggot,” and the boys asked their chaperone if they could do school chants, which are positive in nature, to try to reverse the effects of the hate speech coming from the eccentric protesters. This is where Phillips comes in. He put himself in between two groups to try to “lighten the tension,” which contradicts what he said about the boys getting in his way.

Twitter user @rofllinds tweeted a video of what she claimed was the Covington Catholic boys yelling at her and a friend before the Phillips incident. However, it’s not clear if it’s them or simply another group of boys wearing MAGA hats, and the video is only a few seconds long so it is unknown what happened prior to the video.

The problem with this situation is how the media handled it. It was hot to jump on this story about a white boy in a MAGA hat “harassing” an elderly Native American man. When the full video came out, many scorned the media for spreading false information, and not waiting until more information was available.

Why wasn’t there mass media coverage of the Black Hebrew Israelite protestors shouting obscene profanities at the boys? Or how Phillip lied about being confronted when he was the one doing the confronting, and then complaining that he felt unsafe? The media will cover what will make money, and right now, it is taking the actions of any White, MAGA-hat-wearing Republicans, and making them look like the enemy. We can’t let the media make up our minds for us; we must be responsible and educate ourselves so we know the full story. There is no one to blame but ourselves if we let the media consume us and make decisions for us.
The 2020 Presidential Candidates So Far

BY ALEXANDRIA ROSE GOSEN

The Presidential election of 2016 was a crazy ride for the whole country, whether you were pro-Trump, pro-Hillary, screaming "feel the Bern," or some other political variety. It will be remembered as a unique period, a topic that can escalate quickly in conversation. Regardless, it is important to understand politics and politicians, to be informed and have discussions. So, who is running for president in 2020?

The New York Times Recently published an article featuring everyone guaranteed to run and guaranteed not to run. I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but Oprah is confirmed to not be running for president.

Confirmed candidates, in no particular order:

1. New Jersey Senator, Cory Booker: His signature issue is criminal justice reform, and he is of the Democratic Party.
   Booker focusing on cjr is really cool. There are flaws in the justice system, and the fact that he wants to try and correct those errors is really comforting as a voter.

2. Indiana Mayor, Pete Buttigieg: His signature issue is climate change and economic opportunity. Buttigieg is of the Democratic Party.
   I am very happy to see a candidate who is taking an interest in the climate change issue. I will definitely be following him closely to see what he does to try and help the planet.

3. Former Housing Secretary Julian Castro: His signature issues include universal preschool, Medicaid, and immigration reform
   I really like that Castro is showing an interest in education/child care as that is what preschool is. However, wouldn't that make taxes go up if there is universal child care and schooling? Still, I do like Castro, so he is a candidate I'll be keeping my eye on.

4. Former Congressman from Maryland, John Delaney: His signature issue is promoting himself as a bipartisan problem-solver and supporter of liberal causes. Delaney is of the Democratic Party.
   Delany's issues are very generalized. It seems like he describes himself as more of a middle school teacher than a president. He is a mediator who supports liberal causes.

5. Hawaiian Congresswoman, Tulsi Gabbard: Her signature issue is international American military interference. She is of the Democratic Party.
   Gabbard spent a lot of time working with Bernie Sanders, and I find that really cool. However, she did once work for an anti gay association. Though I believe in second chances, I don't think Presidency is a good place to find redemption.

6. New York Senator, Kirsten Gillibrand: Her signature issue is women's rights and equality. She is of the Democratic Party.
   I really like Gillibrand's focus on equality and feminism, and she is experienced in politics. So, I will be following her candidacy fairly closely.

7. California Senator, Kamala Harris: Her signature issue is unveiled middle class tax legislation, as well as the liberal agenda. She is of the Democratic Party.
   I like that Harris is focusing on taxes with in the middle class. However, I do believe that advertising yourself as someone whose signature issue is "the liberal agenda" is a vague, pie crust promise.

8. Self Help Author, Marianne Williamson: Her signature issues are paying retribution for slavery, with the money being focused in education. She is of the Democratic Party.
   Personally, I will not be voting for Williamson. I love what she stands for, and maybe someone who is a self help expert would be very beneficial to the country, she seems pretty inexperienced- and look at where inexperienced candidates got us.

9. Former tech executive, Andrew Yang: His signature issue is establishing a basic universal outcome in America. He is of the Democratic Party.
   Just like with the previous candidate listed, I like what Yang stands for, but a lack of political experience makes me nervous.

10. Former Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper: His signature issues are Medicaid, gay rights, and gun control. He is of the Democratic Party.
   Hickenlooper has a focus on several important and relevant issues. I think he'd be a good candidate to focus on. †
Winter Car Survival Guide
BY MACKENZIE KNORR

Photography provided by IndyStar
At least it’s not Blizzard of ’78 bad (Yet).

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innesota has no strangers to the cold. Snow, ice, and polar vortexes seem to be common occurrences six months out of the year in Minnesota. However, these winter wonders usually don’t bring everyday life to a standstill. People are still expected to get to necessary places, such as school and work, which means tackling the worst part of winter: driving.

Caring for your car during the cold months is vital when it comes to safety. Making sure your car is in good shape can make all the difference when taking on icy roads and snow storms. Good tires are important for maintaining traction on slippery blacktops, so you should check your tires often for lasting tread and overall quality. Pay attention to the sound of your car; most old cars always have some sort of weird clank or shudder, but drivers should be mindful of new or strange sounds.

Having a safe and reliable engine will help to ensure that you reach your destination.

Your heating system is another key component when looking at your car’s health. Defrost and working fans will make for a comfortable ride, especially for people like us who live above the snow line. In December we have holidays, in January we bring in the new year while on break from classes, and then, there’s February. With its unpredictable and rather miserable weather, it occupies a strange place of stagnation for a lot of us. It’s not really getting warmer, and unless you were born in this godforsaken month, then what’s there to celebrate? Groundhog Day? Yeah... that sounds fun.

On the surface, the holiday is an excuse to take someone out on a cute date, or a reminder (as I walk through Target to grab protein bars), to grab some flowers as well. It’s not a bright light of a holiday, however, it has the potential to be a warm stopover on our way to the spring thaw. Flowers light up a room, chocolate distracts your senses from the dry air, and good company is the ultimate source of warmth and comfort.

It’s not perfect and each individual may have to do their own sort of work to make Valentine’s Day a worth-while event, but whether you use this as an excuse to go on a first date, or a time to get together with other single friends, it can be an opportunity to find just a little bit of light during this cold and unpleasant time of year.

February’s Sunshine:
Redefining Valentines Day
BY MATTHEW IUNG

If you haven’t noticed, there is a lot of hate surrounding the Valentine’s Day holiday (and love that comes with it) from singles, couples, and even some historians. It seems that every year, one of the well-known news outlets runs this very article. Depending on where your opinion falls, this is either a noble tradition that is meant for candy and card companies to make money or a beautiful opportunity to express your love for your mate.

I want to use this article to present a third option. I believe that Valentine’s day is for people who need a reminder of warmth. Let’s look at it this way, February is a wretched month, especially for people like us who live above the snow line. In December we have holidays, in January we bring in the new year while on break from classes, and then, there’s February. With its unpredictable and rather miserable weather, it occupies a strange place of stagnation for a lot of us. It’s not really getting warmer, and unless you were born in this godforsaken month, then what’s there to celebrate? Groundhog Day? Yeah... that sounds fun.

On the surface, the holiday is an excuse to take someone out on a cute date, or a reminder (as I walk through Target to grab protein bars), to grab some flowers as well. It’s not a bright light of a holiday, however, it has the potential to be a warm stopover on our way to the spring thaw. Flowers light up a room, chocolate distracts your senses from the dry air, and good company is the ultimate source of warmth and comfort.

It’s not perfect and each individual may have to do their own sort of work to make Valentine’s Day a worth-while event, but whether you use this as an excuse to go on a first date, or a time to get together with other single friends, it can be an opportunity to find just a little bit of light during this cold and unpleasant time of year.

How to Stay Organized in the Chaos of a New Year
BY ELHAM MOHAMUD

As the new year rolls around, we are bombarded with the overwhelming feeling of “new year, new me,” making it difficult to set a clear goal and be organized in your thoughts. There is so much change happening at once and it can feel like the year is slipping away from you. To get ahead of this feeling, here are three tips on making 2019 the most productive and organized year:

1. Invest in a planner!
Planners are the perfect way to stay organized in the new year. It is a place to write down all important information so you never miss another assignment or a birthday! There is only so much your brain can keep stored, and writing it down relieves all the pressure. If you don’t have one already, get a planner! You will thank me later.

2. Daily Goals
The stress of the new year usually comes from the resolution that you’ve promised yourself. New Year’s resolutions are these huge milestones that we would love to see ourselves reach, however, it is more beneficial to start small. For example, if your goal for 2019 is to be more productive, try setting your alarm an hour earlier than you usually wake up. Do that for a few days and your body will adjust, gradually making you into an earlier riser. These small daily goals will become second nature to you, and then you will be able to move on to other goals. Instead of only working on a single, large-scale goal for the entire year, you will be accomplishing many small goals on your way there!

3. Self Care
As we over extend ourselves to make the next year better than the previous, it is necessary to take the time to slow down and practice self-care, whether that is a having a relaxing bath, going for a run, or just deciding that you’re going to binge watch your favorite TV show. Self care is necessary to continuing positive habits and not letting yourself burn out.

OPINION
The Opioid Epidemic: *The need for more outreach programs for young adult addicts*

BY DANA MURPHY

It is no secret now that opioid addiction in the United States has become not only a public health crisis, but an epidemic. Every single day, nearly 130 people die from an opioid overdose in the U.S. alone. Not more than just twenty years ago were pharmaceutical companies successfully reassured the public that patients who were prescribed opioids were not at risk of becoming addicted to them. This lead to doctors prescribing them at greater rates, and ultimately led to the U.S. discovering that these once convincing pharmaceutical companies were wrong.

In 2015, 33,000 Americans died of an opioid overdose; more than half of those were young adults between the ages of 18 and 25. Furthermore, from 2016 to 2017, the Midwest experienced a seventy percent increase in opioid overdoses. In September 2018, just four months ago, my own best friend who had moved to Minnesota from California in 2015 died from an overdose. She was not an opioid user when I met her. In fact, she was outgoing and loved life more than anyone I know. Her problem developed in the few years she lived in Minnesota and led to a quick spiral into heavy drug use. She was only twenty-two years old.

So the questions remain: What do we plan on doing about the opioid epidemic moving forward? And how many more increases in death rates do we need to see before serious and significant action is taken? Although I have always been aware of the issue, the premature and unexpected death of my friend has opened my eyes to not only how serious, but also how close to home, the problem is.

It cannot go unacknowledged that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as well as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) have taken several steps in order to treat and hopefully end the opioid addiction crisis. They have both worked to improve access to recovery services, strengthen our understanding of the problem, establish safe and non-addictive strategies to manage chronic pain, and come up with new medications and technologies to treat addiction (especially opioid use) disorders. These are great and comforting steps being taken, but these things obviously don’t happen overnight. So where does that leave those addicted to opioids in the meantime and how can we help?

Often times I hear about addicts in their twenties being put through the criminal justice system when they are charged with a crime related to opioids. It’s upsetting because with the easy access to opioids these days, their arrests and charges just become a cycle for them that they unfortunately are unlikely to break. Being fined and/or sent to jail rarely solves the actual problem at hand. Instead, their problem with drugs should be treated for what it is: a disease. Rather than be punished, there should be resources set in place for young addicts to turn to upon getting in trouble with drugs. Doing this would establish a foundation for addicts that would help them overcome the devastating obstacle of opioid addiction and ultimately end the cycle of arrests and charges. So many addicts I have met simply need someone to turn to and understand them. Although my friend was never charged with any drug-related crimes, just knowing there were better and more resources she could reach out to might have saved her life.

Being two years into my own recovery, I can say with confidence that there are simply not enough resources for young people trying to gain sobriety. Having attended many Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings in the past, I was almost always the sole attendee under the age of fifty. I no longer attend meetings as I felt like I could not relate to the other members. Of the four colleges I have attended, only one of them offers a very loose outreach program for students and young people in recovery. Universities should make recovery support groups a staple on their campuses without question. Especially considering the popularity of drugs and alcohol on college campuses and in college towns, this would be a great and innovative way to introduce people to the option of sobriety early on.

Communities and college towns should offer AA and NA meetings specifically geared towards young adults. For those trying to stop using drugs, especially those in their 20s, having people to talk to and actually relate to is one of the key elements to a successful recovery.

The Government Shutdown

BY MATTHEW IUNG

The last government shutdown was not only our longest, but the one that probably affected the most people, and the consequences are not just a financial. After missing two paychecks, there is no doubt that many families suffered while having to scrape by to stay afloat. For many of them, the trying times are not over. With there already being threats of another shutdown, I believe that the longest lasting effect of Trump’s decision will be anxiety and fear, a fear that this will not be the last shutdown to take both time and money from workers, and fear that it will be even longer the second time around.

There is a real possibility that the government will shut down again. This is a terrifying prospect for families around the country. It’s likely that people are being tight with their money just in case their pay is withheld from them again. This is no way to treat a people that elected you, regardless of your party affiliation or stance on an issue. To let this much anxiety and distress take hold of the people you are representing at any level is absolutely intolerable. Aren’t the workers you are withholding pay from working for the same government as the people who cannot seem to agree?

The shutdown will have irreversible effects on people all over the county. During the last one, some were late on bills, credit card payments, and the rent payment that keeps a roof over their head. This not only affects the people, but often, the institutions around them. While it’s good that there are ways for those workers to get paid, that doesn’t make up for what could have been, or what was lost to them. While the country waits to see whether what solution is created by lawmakers, we can only hope that if the government does shut down, it won’t be for as long. †
Walls Don’t Fix It All

BY VICTORIA TURCOS

LET’S SAY YOU WOKE UP TOMORROW with $5.7 billion to your name; In what would you invest that money? Maybe you’d buy a few cars, pay off your looming student debt, consider early retirement, or... build a wall?

The Great Wall of China, the Berlin Wall in Germany, and the Peace Lines in Northern Ireland are just a few reminders that a physical barrier constructed with the intention of dividing ideas, beliefs, and people is nothing new. The Trump administration has added its own historic twist to it, and it’s apparent that the collateral damage his approach creates as he continues proposing a border wall is somehow supposed to justify the means to an end.

Let’s rip off the band-aid and talk facts about Trump’s conquest for said wall. Mexico won’t be paying; despite being a selling point during his campaign, Trump’s now counting on Congress to give him the money for a wall which has already resulted in a history-making government shutdown that affected many.

Those living by the border are being overlooked; residents who live along the U.S.-Mexico border, many who are in support of Trump’s administration, don’t support a wall. According to the Star Telegram of Fort Worth, those residing in the Lone Star state are concerned not only about the barrier taking over their private land and impacting natural wildlife, but also have a growing doubt that it would reduce drug smuggling, or illegal immigration. These selling points used by Trump are also something that the DHS has stated would be nothing against the evolving smuggling methods used by many for both drugs and illegal immigration.

Rhetoric used to defend the wall is generalizing immigrants and raising hate crime; according to the Center for Immigration Studies, research states that the exaggerated fear over immigrant crime as a stereotype boils over into hate crimes while the majority of immigrants are law-abiding citizens. Hate crime statistics by the FBI support this research showing a disturbing and growing trend, as in 2017 alone these discriminatory incidents rose 17%.

It’s absurd to say that Trump’s rhetoric used to defend the wall, all while referring to immigrants as animals rather than people, is not a part of the growing issue. Words are fuel, and hateful intolerance is infiltrated through Trump’s statements. The data doesn’t add up; According to Brookings, a nonprofit organization conducting research, “There is no evidence that undocumented residents accounted for either the rise in crime or event for a substantial number of crimes. The vast majority of violent crimes, including murders, are committed by native-born Americans.”

Despite these facts, Pew research statistics state that nearly eight in ten of Trump supporters favor the building of a wall along the Mexican border, but when it comes to other issues regarding immigrants, that support falters and becomes divided. They do seem to agree on one thing though: that immigration is a serious problem. Many who are currently in or have been through the immigration process in the United States (which includes myself) agree that it is a problem. According to the Council on Foreign Relations, Congress has avoided proactive policy on the matter for years despite politicians on both sides of the aisle using the matter as a marketing tactic for their electoral campaigns.

The majority of Latin American immigrants crossing the U.S border today hope to escape violence, corrupt governments, and to have a chance at a better future. Despite an overarching narrative that has sprouted a false crisis built upon dehumanizing remarks and assumptions by Trump’s administration, a wall wouldn’t fix the growing issue. We need an immigration reform that works for everyone, including the diverse growing demographic of minorities that will fuel our future. By 2045, the U.S. population will be 50.3% composed of Hispanics, Blacks, Asians, multiracial and other communities, according to Brookings statistics.

While a wall would give Trump a bragging token, it would come at the expense of over 800,000 federal workers missing pay, rising hate crimes, damaged relations with neighboring countries and allies, as well as a wall that won’t stop drugs and immigrants from making their way into the country. Overall, it is a costly $5.7 billion that could be invested elsewhere.

They do say that history tends to repeat itself. While the Berlin Wall was up for twenty-eight years, it came down eventually, and not by the will of the government but by the demands of the people. †

One Side of Trump’s Wall

TYLER DUNN

THE UNITED STATES border neighboring Mexico is the ninth longest international border in the world, stretching over 3,000 miles. Back in the 2016 election, President Trump made the bold campaign promise of building a wall on this very border. Overall, this has been an extremely polarizing issue during the first two years of Trump’s Presidency, and it is showing prominence in the 2018 election as well.

Currently, there are large sections of the border that are protected by some sort of barrier. In Texas there is fencing in parts of high traffic areas, but the largest portion of unsecured border is in Western Texas. This section is in a very rural portion of the state, is currently 600 miles of unsecured land with no large cities on either side of the border.

In the past, this issue has not been as partisan as it is today, for there have been several federally funded measures to secure portions of the border. The Secure Fence Act of 2006 passed the House 367-109 and was signed into law by President Bush. This bill authorized roughly 1.4 billion dollars to construct a wall in vulnerable places of the border to secure newly discovered routes. President Obama, as well as current Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer supported a similar act in 2009. Many Republicans have made the claim that Democrats are simply against the wall due to the fact that it is a major campaign promise of the President.

When addressing the issue of the wall, is hard to deny the fact that this barrier would help to decrease the number of undocumented immigrants coming into the country. Looking around the world, walls are part of the primary border security of many nations including the Koreas, Israel, Vatican City, and many countries in Europe, used as checkpoints to secure their nation’s borders.

In the United States, areas that have invested in a wall have seen illegal immigration slow by almost 90 percent in some areas. The El Paso section of the wall in Texas’ most Western city has led to lower crime rates as well as decreased illegal immigration in El Paso, factors that were improved with the construction of the wall.

The main question is this: do the American People want to spend such a large amount of money on constructing and maintaining a wall that will rarely see any activity? Overall, securing the southern border has a lot of positives, such as helping to stop drugs from flowing into our country, and preventing human traffickers from harming more innocent people. The theory is, that if you deter people from traveling across the border, there will be less vulnerable migrants for human traffickers to capitalize on.

There have been other compromises that have been proposed such as Will Hurd’s bill, which proposed a technology wall on the border of his home district, which is the largest district on the border. Overall, it will be extremely interesting to see how the situation at the border will unfold with the Trump Administration already having gone through a government shutdown and another shutdown looming. †
2019 State of the Union

BY TYLER DUNN

WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: Just after the longest government shutdown in United States history, all of congress gathered in the House chamber for President Trump’s second State of the Union address. With this being the first time the President has had to lead with a divided legislative branch, President Trump’s second State of the Union address quite fittingly placed a focus on unity. President Trump began the State of the Union with a bipartisan tone stating that, “This is a new opportunity in American politics, if we only have the courage to seize it.” The President then went on to state, “Victory is not winning for our party, Victory is winning for our country.”

The address lasted a total of 82 minutes, and was one of the longest addresses in history. The speech was interrupted by applause over a hundred times. This stream of applause actually became one of the more talked about issues surrounding the speech. Many of the Democrats were criticized for sitting on their hands and not recognizing President Trump’s many accomplishments in his first two years. Democrats refused to applaud the President for having achieved the lowest unemployment for African Americans and Hispanic Americans. This was somewhat shocking as the economy has been extremely strong under President Trump and unemployment across the country has continued to fall.

The president continued to discuss border security and the importance of protecting our southern border specifically. This included the recognition of an ice agent in the gallery of the house chamber who had caught hundreds of human traffickers at the southern border. To the surprise of many, Trump did not declare a national emergency at the southern border, but stated that he could do so.

One of the most talked about moments of the night occurred when the entire Congress rose to their feet and applauded President Trump when he gave congratulations to the most number of women elected in congress. After asking several students here on campus, I have compiled a list of the top gifts for February 14th (or anytime, really)! Here it is:

Valentine's Day Gift Ideas:
How to show love and save money... at the same time!

BY ALEXANDRIA ROSE GOSEN

1. Time Spent
   Many people have agreed that the best gift for Valentine’s Day is simply spending time together. Don’t overcomplicate things! There’s no need to break the bank; just spend some quality time with your valentine. Go for a walk, stay in for the night of snuggling and movies, or indulge a bit and go out for dinner. Just make sure you have some special one-on-one time.

2. Handmade Gifts
   A handmade gift is always heartfelt, original, and made with love. The best part about a homemade gift is that it can be as simple or complex as you want! From a heartfelt note to a hand-painted portrait, the main goal is just to show how much you care. With handmade gifts, it really is the thought that counts. Relieve the pressure from yourself and do your best. Your lover will recognize the energy you put into it.

3. Day-After Discounts!
   Because it’s a holiday, Valentine’s day shoppers often feel the pressure to empty their wallet on a gift. Guess what? You don’t have to! There are some people who are just fine with Day-After discount chocolates and other V-Day goodies. The best part? Because it’s on sale, you are able to buy more! It’s perfectly acceptable to exchange gifts a day late and save that extra dollar.

4. Ask Someone to be your Valentine
   The lonely hearts club is quite extensive. Now is a great day to confess your feelings and give them the simple yet profound gift of being admired! You could ask out that cute guy/girl you’ve been crushing on for weeks, or, you could even ask your best friend, and spread that platonic love! All that matters is that you have someone to celebrate with.

5. Give a compliment
   Even simpler and less intimidating than professing your love, telling a friend or crush that you like their hair, shirt, or well-attended cuticles can make their day.

There you have it folks! You don't need to break the bank on your Valentine this year. Just have a fun night, and celebrate love! †
ARTS & VARIETY

Featured Artist: Madison Buchanan

BY BROOKE STEIGAUF

Madison Buchanan is a CSP artist whose work you have probably seen before. Her illustrations are eye-catching, intriguing, playful, and sometimes disconcerting, and that is exactly why we print them on the back cover of The Sword. You may have thought that they were digitally made, as her lines are remarkably straight, her colors are extraordinarily uniform, and its appearance is near-perfect. Unbelievably though, Buchanan’s featured illustrations are hand drawn.

If you are a person who finds themselves insecure about their artistic abilities, Buchanan’s story might put your emotions in perspective. Despite Buchanan’s undeniable talent and profound creativity, she too has struggled to be confident in her capabilities. “The most frustrating part about being an artist is the pressure that you put on yourself,” she states. “I’m my own perfectionist; Generally when someone says, ‘You’re a perfectionist,’ it means you’re making things look good for others but for me, it is about my personal standards. If I can’t make it to my vision, it puts me down.”

Buchanan disclosed that this feeling of inferiority began when she compared herself to someone else. As a budding artist, she found herself surrounded by people who were interested in making highly realistic artwork, while she found herself more compelled toward drawing cartoons. While her best friend at the time, a more advanced artist, received lots of recognition for her work, Buchanan yearned for the same support and appreciation from her peers.

The result of this discouragement is something from which she now benefits, but also still struggles with today. Buchanan put hours upon hours of work into her crafts(wo)manship in order to build her skills. Even with her increase in ability and the encouragement of her peers, Buchanan admits that she still feels self-doubt. “Perfectionism pushes me to make things better, but it also strains me to achieve things that I know are not obtainable... at the moment.” Buchanan is still refining her skills, remaking old ideas, and hardest of all, working toward building her confidence.

Making artwork isn’t all fun and games, but it’s not all head-banging and paper-crumpling either. At the start of my interview with Buchanan, she was busy with a piece for her senior art exhibition appearing in CSP’s gallery next Spring. For her showing, she is creating artwork to synthesize the challenges and rewards that each day of the week presents. It was a Monday, and she was working on — “Monday.” Near the end of my interview, she displayed it on her easel and said, “I am done, and I like it.”

Buchanan explained the satisfaction she feels when she finishes a piece that she approves. She is most proud of her overall style, as it is something unique and her own. Her hope for her work is that someone else will be inspired by it and that it will contribute to their own style. Buchanan’s advice for others and herself is to remember that you can only get better, but it takes practice.
All illustrations were provided by Madison Buchanan
Illustrated above is an untitled piece from 2015
Illustrated to the left is one of her newest, an untitled piece from 2019
Illustrated below are two pieces, the one on the left created in 2017, and the one on the right created in 2015
Both pieces below are untitled.
Female Athlete of the Month:  
**Toni Canfall**

**By Ben Diers**

The female athlete of the month for February is Sophomore track and field star Toni Canfall. Canfall, a native of St. Petersburg Florida, has started the 2019 indoor season on a very strong note. After coming within .02 seconds of the school record in her first two races of the season, Canfall finally pushed through and managed to break the school record in the 60 meter with a time of 7.66 at the Mark Schuck Open.

In her brief time at Concordia, Canfall has already accomplished many big things. She participates in many track events including the 60, 100, 200 meter sprints and the 4 by 100 and 4 by 400 relays. In 2018, Canfall earned All-nsic honors in the 100 meter at the nsic Outdoor Championships. She finished the year with 13 top-five performances and five first place finishes. However, according to Canfall, these aren’t her biggest accomplishments. When asked about her proudest accomplishments as an athlete at Concordia, Canfall said, “probably breaking three school records in the 60, 100, and 200.” Canfall added that the coaches here at Concordia have been very helpful in pushing her to be her best, especially coach Sam Johnson. Another thing Canfall noted about her time at Concordia was her improvement once she focused on track. She said, “I used to dance and cheer, and after I cut those things out and focused on track, I improved a lot.”

When asked about any pre-race rituals or habits she might have, Canfall said that she doesn’t really have any weird things she does to prepare herself. However, she did say that she always tries to talk to her dad on the phone before races as a source of support and inspiration.

As she continues her track and field career at Concordia, Canfall will no doubt be looking to break more records, including breaking her own records she has set over her first couple seasons. As the indoor track and field season continues and eventually moves into the outdoor season, be sure to look out for Canfall as she tries to chase down more records.

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Male Athlete of the Month:  
**Nasru Wado**

**By Zack Moeller**

The male athlete of the month for February is Nasru Wado, a senior thrower for the Golden Bear track and field team and a friendly face on CSP’s campus. Wado has had an outstanding start to the indoor season where he has excelled in the weight throw.

Wado recently broke his own school record at the SDSU DI Invitational, hucking the weight at a distance of 58’ 3” which is also a provisional qualifying throw for the indoor NCAA Division II National Championship. The outdoor record for hammer throw also belongs to Wado at a distance of 163’ 10.” “My coaches and the whole team are supporting me and pushing me to be successful,” said Wado.

When asked about his goals for the rest of the season, Wado stated, “I want to make it to Nationals. I’ve had a couple Pro (provisional) throws, but my goal is to get an auto throw… but I have a lot of work to do.” In order to achieve this goal, Wado will just have to put in some old-fashioned work: lifting, practicing, and working with his coaches. “Step by step, I just follow my coach and what she tells me to do,” said Wado, “then I just leave the rest up to God. If it happens, it happens; if it doesn’t, it doesn’t. I can only do my best.”

Wado is currently a graduate student at Concordia after graduating last year. He is currently working on his master’s in criminal justice and leadership. “My goal is to be a police officer for the city of St. Paul and work my way up through the system,” said Wado. Outside of school, Wado just enjoys hanging out with friends being a social, “goofy” guy. “I’m pretty much open to anything that involves fun activities.”

When asked about what gives him his motivation, the normally light-hearted Wado gave a very serious answer: “My motivation comes from my parents,” he said. “My parents came here as immigrants, so they also believed and taught me hard work and dedication. Those are the types of things I carry with me everywhere I go. Regardless of if I throw good or not, if you don’t have the hard work and dedication you’re not going anywhere in life. So I just try to work hard and stay focused.”

The end of February is the nsic championships for indoor followed by NCAA indoor championship March 8th and 9th, should Wado qualify. We will see how the indoor season turns out for Wado, with the outdoor season following up at the end of March.
Final Four Preparation Underway at US Bank Stadium
BY ZACK MOELLER

The beginning of February marks the end of football season and yet another Patriot Super Bowl victory has come and gone. This means the sporting world will now turn its attention to the coming of March Madness and the NCAA Men’s and Women’s basketball tournament. This year the Final Four will be taking place on Minnesota soil at US Bank Stadium, just over a year since the stadium hosted Super Bowl LII. The event will require major alterations to the young stadium.

A “practice run” occurred at the end of November when the stadium first had a basketball court built in for a University of Minnesota men’s basketball game against Oklahoma State. The event was a four-game showcase that also featured St. Thomas, the University of Wisconsin—River Falls, North Dakota State, South Dakota State University, Drake, and the University of Northern Iowa. The goal of the showcase was to see how the stadium handled the sounds and lights of a basketball game which can differ drastically from those of a football game.

Many alterations need to be made to the stadium in order for it to be Final Four ready, and they aren’t cheap changes, by any means. The cost of the event will be millions of dollars more expensive to the public than the Super Bowl. After some reimbursements, the expenses of the Final Four will cost the Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority an estimated ten million dollars, compared to 627,000 dollars for the Super Bowl. The main costs will come from blackout curtains that need to be installed to insure lighting stay consistent, those will cost around five million dollars. The NCAA also requires 10,000 seats to be placed near the court which will cost another two million dollars. Other transformations include hanging the giant NCAA scoreboard, transforming the tunnels, and adding work areas, interview rooms, and locker rooms for each team.

The cost will be somewhat mitigated by an estimated two million dollars in revenue from merchandise, food, and beverage sales, which will include beer and wine for the first time at a Final Four which has not previously been allowed. The initial expense for big events such as this is viewed more as an investment. MSPA Chairman Michael Vekich stated, “The cost is not the result anybody thought it would be, but we’ve got it covered. The Super Bowl and Final Four nicely position U.S. Bank Stadium to book other big events. You take a look at two huge sports events that will be watched by millions of people, the major message is that we can make this happen.”

The Final Four games take place on April 6th and the championship game will take place on April 8th.†

Men’s Basketball Looks to End the Season on a Strong Note
BY TYLER DUNN

The Golden Bear men’s basketball is getting into the home stretch of their 2018-2019 campaign. The Golden Bears have shown signs of brilliance throughout the year. However, inconsistency throughout the season has led to Concordia’s current record of 8-15. Two extended losing streaks throughout the season have certainly not helped Concordia with seeding going into the postseason.

The first of these winless droughts came at the beginning of conference play as the Golden Bears played three straight road games in which they battled in close games but ultimately faltered down the stretch. The second string of losses began after the holiday break as Concordia struggled to win games, losing six in a row. During this stretch of games, the Golden Bears struggled to score points against some of the conference’s top competition.

The Golden Bears will look to jump start their season in the home stretch and gather some momentum going into the NSIC Conference tournament. In the past, the Bears have played the role of spoiler in the tournament upsetting Minnesota State Moorhead two years ago in the first round. Concordia will play their final two home games of the season at the Gangelhoff Center against Wayne State and Augustana on February 15th and 16th. The Golden Bears will win the conclude their regular season on the road against Winona State and Upper Iowa. If the season ended today, the Golden Bears would be the 15th seed in the conference tournament. The top seeded teams in the conference are likely to be Northern State, Wayne State and St. Cloud State. Concordia’s biggest win so far this season was a 107 to 91 victory against St. Cloud State. The win certainly shows that the Golden Bears have the ability to compete against the conference’s best teams.

The Golden Bears have been led by senior Bryndan Matthews, who is currently second in the conference in field goal percentage. Matthews has also moved into the top twenty all time scoring leaders in NSIC history. Matthews, who has over 1,200 career points, has been a force on the offensive side of the ball for the majority of the year and if the Golden Bears are going to make a run in the postseason, it will most likely be behind him.

As the regular season draws to a close, the Golden Bears will be looking to put it all together and make a run to the Pentagon in Sioux Falls. This team has shown it has the ability to play with the best teams in the conference and in the region, so a deep postseason run is not impossible. It won’t be easy with the depth of talent in the NSIC as well as the overall high quality of teams in the Central Region, however, this team is loaded with guys who can score the basketball and defend.†
Minneapolis Timberwolves Season Update

BY ANDREW WYLIE

The fate of the Timberwolves for the remaining portion of the 2018-19 season rests almost entirely with their two max contract players, Karl-Anthony Towns and Andrew Wiggins. As of this writing, the Timberwolves have compiled a record of 25-28, which is 11th in the Western conference and puts them three and a half games out of the 8th and final playoff position.

The Wolves have had some things go right and a lot of things go wrong this season following their most successful year since 2004. The unquestionable leader of last year’s Timberwolves, Jimmy Butler, forced his way out of town. The head coach, Tom Thibodeau, was let go after 40 games when it became clear he was not going to lead this team forward. He was replaced by Ryan Saunders, long-time bench coach and the son of Timberwolves great, the late Flip Saunders.

The Jimmy Butler trade did bring in additions Dario Saric and Robert Covington, who have both proven to be valuable assets. Derrick Rose has become an excellent comeback story, as he is averaging 18.1 points a game and having his best season since his 2011 MVP campaign. Rookie Josh Okogie has been an exciting surprise with his hard-nosed play.

Injuries have decimated the Wolves with key players missing multiple games. Jeff Teague, Derrick Rose, Robert Covington, and Tyus Jones have all missed significant time. This year’s unquestionable leader has been Towns. He has been averaging 22.8 points per game on over 50% shooting, with 12.1 rebounds and 3.2 assists per game. His intensity and focus seem higher this year than his previous three seasons, rewarding the team that gave him a max contract deal last offseason. The future of the Timberwolves rests with the continued maturation and dominance of Karl-Anthony Towns. He will need to continue to play at a high level for the team to make a playoff push.

Yet the Wolves will live and die by the play of Wiggins. No coach has succeeded in motivating him to excel consistently, though there have been some positive early signs under Ryan Saunders so far. He signed a max contract deal the previous offseason worth just under $37 million a year. With that contract, they cannot trade him or keep him on the bench. That goes for every season until it expires in 2023. The Wolves will not be able to fill the roster with coveted free agents as long as Wiggins commands so much of the payroll.

Wiggins has averaged 17.8 points a game with a 39.6% shooting and 4.6 rebounds a game with only 2.3 assists. Anyone that has seen Wiggins play anywhere near his potential has been frustrated by his lack of consistency and what can only be described as a lack of heart.

There is a lot of regular season left, but the Timberwolves will need to get healthy, play consistent, and go on more than a few winning streaks if they want to make the playoffs. Simply making the playoffs is about the highest ceiling anyone could realistically hope for from this year’s squad. They are also not bad enough to tank into the draft lottery.

The results of this season will determine the future in many ways. If they falter, they could be looking at a completely revamped roster next year and a new head coach, with yet another rebuild. If they succeed, perhaps they can continue to develop their core players and add the right pieces for a deep playoff run in future seasons. †

Trio of Concordia Graduates Making an Impact on the Final Four

BY BEN DIERS

As the month of March draws nearer, preparations for the 2019 March Madness men’s basketball tournament are well underway. Stadiums and facilities across the country are preparing to host basketball games and events related to the tournament. In Minneapolis, the city is preparing to host the Final Four at US Bank Stadium in early April. At the office of the 2019 Final Four Local Organizing Committee, a trio of former Concordia students, Helena Way, Cordell Smith, and Ivan Cardona, are hard at work planning and organizing many different facets of the event.

The youngest of the Concordia graduates working at the local organizing committee, Way has helped plan community outreach projects like Read to the Final Four, a bracketed style reading competition for third graders, and The Final Four Dribble, a parade involving thousands of kids dribbling basketballs through downtown Minneapolis. When asked about her foundation in sports management at Concordia, Way mentioned how helpful some of her sport management classes were. She said, “Dr. Huberty’s sports management class had a huge impact on me. Some of the speakers she brought in, including Ivan who hired me here, really helped me to understand the sports world.” In talking about opportunity within the world of sports management, Way’s biggest piece of advice to current students is to take every possible opportunity. “Always say yes to everything. Don’t limit yourself. Take every opportunity that comes your way.”

Another Concordia graduate making an impact on the Final Four is Cordell Smith. In his position with the local organizing committee, Smith is involved in planning events like Read to the Final Four and the Final Four Dribble along with Way. When asked about the ways that Concordia prepared him for his job, Smith said that the people and the connections he made there had a big impact on him today. He also noted the value of the informational interview he got to conduct with a real athletic director while he was a student at Concordia, saying, “I got to interview an athletic director that explained the not-so-glamorous parts of the job. It just gave me a realistic view of what it’s really like to be an athletic director.” As far as advice for current Concordia students, Smith said, “Be willing to do anything. Willingness to help and do whatever is what it takes.”

The third and final Concordia graduate working at the local organizing committee is Ivan Cardona.
In his position, Cardona has hired people like Way and Smith among many other duties. When asked about his experience at Concordia, Cardona had high praise for the professors he had over the years, especially Dr. Lana Huberty, saying, “She has always given me great feedback and wisdom.” Cardona’s biggest piece of advice for current Concordia students, especially those in the sports management program, was to be open and willing to do almost anything and to always be prepared. He said, “You just have to always be ready because if you’re not, someone else will be.” Cardona also spoke on the importance of asking questions as he noted, “You should ask questions and take advice when it is being offered. The world is too dangerous and too scary to think that you’ll be able to do everything on your own.”

The hard work and dedication of these three Concordia graduates and many others at the local organizing committee will all come to fruition over the coming weeks and months as the Final Four

Women’s Basketball Takes Aim at a Postseason Run

BY BEN DIERS

As the 2018-19 regular season nears its end, the Golden Bear women’s basketball team is looking to make a run into the NSIC Tournament. So far this season, the Golden Bears have posted an impressive 17-6 record that currently has them sitting in first place in the NSIC South.

The Golden Bears’ record is especially impressive when you consider the 13-18 record the team posted last season. The Golden Bears have improved their play in many areas of the game this season, but their performances at home have been nothing short of dominant, posting a home record of 11-1 thus far. Their lone home loss came in overtime against Minnesota State Moorhead on February 4th.

The Golden Bears’ stellar record this season comes mostly as a result of their dominance at home, as the team has posted a more modest record of 5-4 on the road. With two home games and two road games left on the schedule, the team has a shot to end the regular season on a solid winning streak and head into the NSIC Tournament on a high note.

Another strength of the Golden Bears this season has been their resilience after a loss. The team has only lost back to back games once this season, with the losses coming on the road against Minnesota State Mankato and Sioux Falls in early December. Other than that, the Golden Bears’ season has consisted of solid winning streaks with only a few losses sprinkled in. The team’s longest winning streak of the season is six games, a streak that spanned mostly in the month of January.

There have been many standout performers for the Golden Bears this season, but seniors Lindsay Dorr and Anna Schmitt have been especially impressive, consistently leading the team in points. At the time of this writing, Dorr leads the team in points with 386 on a .508 field goal percentage while Schmitt is close behind with 356 points on a .418 field goal percentage.

As the regular season winds down and the NSIC Tournament draws nearer, the Golden Bears will be looking to string together some wins and make some noise in the postseason. Last season, despite having a somewhat disappointing record, the team was able to make a run all the way to the semifinals of the tournament. This year, the team will no doubt be trying to replicate the tournament success they found last year as they attempt to take it one game further and take home the championship. The Bears have proven themselves to be among conferences elite teams, so be sure to watch out as they try to defend their elite status and make a run in the postseason.

Minnesota Wild Season Update

BY ZACK MOELLER

The Minnesota Wild are just past their All-Star break, meaning they have about one-third of their regular season left to go. The team has been stingy all season long with many of their games being decided by one or two goals. While the team doesn’t come close to leading the NHL in any statistical categories, they have played consistently in all areas and have used grit to pick up points in close situations. Just out of the break, the Wild find themselves in the middle of playoff contention. The team is currently fourth in the Central Division of the Western Conference, good enough for the first wild card spot in a tightly packed middle of the Western Conference.

The offensive attack is being led by Zach Parise so far this season as he leads the team with 21 goals and 46 overall points. Mikael Granlund has also been an anchor for the offense adding 44 points of his own with 3 of those coming by way of assist.

The defense this season has been led by the duo of Ryan Suter and Jared Spurgeon who have had to pick up their play as Matt Dumba, another main defensive player for the team, has been nursing an injury over the last month. Devan Dubnyk has once again been the best performing goalie for the team starting 42 games thus far and posting a 20-17-4 record with a 0.913 save percentage. The team’s backup goalie Alex Stalock has seen double digit starts this season as well, posting a 6-5-1 record with a 0.892 save percentage.

Unfortunately, the team will be without veteran captain Mikko Koivu for the rest of the season after the center suffered a season ending knee injury just a few games after the All-Star break. Koivu had led the team in faceoff wins and added 19 points to the team’s cause before suffering the injury. Koivu’s veteran leadership on the ice would have been extremely helpful as the team looks to finish the season with a playoff push. “I’m feeling more for Mikko,” said head coach Bruce Boudreau. “I know this is upsetting to him, but I also know that he’s such a competitor and he will come back, and he will be ready for next year. Somebody’s going to have to step up and say, ‘OK, I’m the faceoff guy now here, and I’m going to be that guy. You’re going to see the character of your team and your group, in how they adjust to this.’ It’s going to take an increased effort from everybody to hold the playoff position the team is in now. Hard work and consistent play could even see them getting one of the top three spots in the division. The team’s regular season ends on the 6th of April against the Dallas Stars, whom the Wild are only currently three points behind for the third division playoff spot.

Photography provided by The Minnesota Wild
Members of the Minnesota Wild celebrate after a goal at Xcel Energy Center
From Dirt to Hay: What it Takes to Become a Farmer

BY JULIA FOLZ

Farming is such a vital part of our economy, health, and everyday lifestyles and yet few consider it as a potential career option. This may be because of the difficulty that people face to begin their careers as farmers and the amount of hard work and dedication that it takes to be a successful farmer.

According to Steven Stolberg, a farm employee in Forest Lake, Minnesota, “It is very challenging to get into farming. To be honest, I think that the two ways to get into farming these days is to either have money or have a farm generationally passed down.” While this may work for some families, several families do not have anyone willing to continue to work on the farm.

Unfortunately for new farmers, one of the difficulties of farming is simply having enough money to even begin. Stolberg tells us, “In order to buy land in Minnesota it is anywhere from $2,000-$10,000 per acre.” Farmers not only have to be able to afford the land that they farm on, but also all of the equipment. Stolberg states, “In order to get all of the equipment that you needed to get a start on farming, I would guess that it would cost somewhere between half a million and one million dollars. The price depends on your focus in farming. If you only wanted to plant hay, you would need less equipment than if you wanted to plant hay and corn.” Acquiring enough money to start a farm is extremely difficult, but keeping the farm running is just as challenging.

According to research done by the Minnesota State Demographic Center in 2015, most farmers have another source of income to survive financially. They state, “For forty-seven percent of principal operators, fifty-eight percent of second operators, and fifty-one percent of third operators, something other than farming serves as their primary occupation.” This research shows that about half of Minnesotan farmers need two jobs in order to continue their way of life.

Stolberg says that one of the most time-consuming things to do on the farm is growing hay. For this process a farmer must till a field, plant the hay, rake the hay, bale the hay and finally bring a truck into the field and load the hay onto a trailer. Stolberg explains that “A 137-acre field will have between 630-650 bales per cut and there are three cuts per year.” Each of these steps has to be completed within a certain amount of time to be sure that the farmer is making the best quality of hay possible. Stolberg tells us, “We will spend ninety hours in one week for 350 acres of hay” and Dan Taylor plants roughly 2,500 acres of hay each year.

From the long hours, the expensive machinery, and the struggle to buy or rent land, I wondered how someone would even begin starting their farming career. Steven Stolberg and his brother Alex began their farming careers together, with the hope that it would be easier to get into this business with a partner. The Stolbergs began farming by buying a few cows from a local farmer. They then needed hay for their cows which is how they met Dan Taylor. Taylor decided to hire both Alex and Steven to help with his own cattle and crops. Stolberg says that this is valuable to him because “he is teaching me how to become a farmer and all of the ins and outs of owning my own farm.” Without the help of Dan Taylor, the Stolberg brothers would have had a hard time affording their own land, equipment, and livestock.

The two brothers found forty-seven acres of land that they are now renting for $3,500 per year. Taylor allows the Stolbergs to use his equipment for free to help them get started. Steven Stolberg stressed the importance of the farming community and how much they have helped him and his brother to begin farming. He describes this group by saying, “The farmers in our community are very nice. Whatever the situation is, someone is always there to help.” Stolberg tells us that throughout all of these challenges he still wants to be a farmer. “It is rewarding to see your hard work grow into something right in front of your eyes,” he says. He also stated that he enjoys the outdoors and being physically active, making him a perfect fit for this line of work. When asked if he would do anything differently if he could go back Stolberg stated, “No. I love what I do. I am able to be outside, see my animals, and work with my hands every day. This is my life.”

Book Review:
A Review of Orwell’s 1984

BY ELI GRUBBS

George Orwell’s 1984 stands as one of the most influential and popular books of modern times. The 1949 novel celebrates its 70th anniversary this year, and its themes of authoritarianism, paranoia, surveillance, and the effects of widespread ignorance are still very relevant today. On its surface, the book is a thrilling, as well as depressing dystopian story about a horrific state of the world, where Great Britain has become “Airstrip-One,” a province governed by a totalitarian authority with a man called “Big Brother” as its leader. The story follows Winston Smith, a man who works for the government rewriting historical documents, and his struggle with the society that he lives in.

Written at the beginning of the Cold War, 1984 explores many things about society and the people that make it up. Various roles within the societal structure are examined, such as the classes and the kind of influence that they have on government. In the book, control is maintained because of fear of the consequences of individualism is imposed upon everyone. There is a cult mentality that is projected onto the populous that makes people reject fact and reason; 2+2=5 becomes something people are willing to accept because they are brainwashed by a constant barrage of propaganda, lies, and fear.

A comparison readers might make to 1984’s “Airstrip-One” is the North Korean Regime, but one should stop to consider the parallels between the Orwellian society of 1984 and the rest of the world, including the United States. Every day we are subjected to endless advertisements, telling us what we need, what we should buy, what we deserve, what our children deserve, and show us “the ideal” life. Every time we glance at our smartphones, watch our TVs, listen to the radio or drive down the highway, we are subject to countless messages that influence our subconscious heads. We believe things that we don’t know how we came to believe, and we want things we don’t know why we want.

Jealousy and envy are byproducts of an overindulgent society that encourage people to live as consumers, and to ultimately be consumed by our own hopes and dreams, which more often than not consist mainly of monetary and material gains. The lesson, and what we can glean from 1984’s wisdom, is that we should all be a little more aware of our environment, and especially of ourselves.

Movie Review: Twenty-Five Years of Pulp Fiction

BY ELI GRUBBS

2019 marks the 25th anniversary of Quentin Tarantino’s cult masterpiece Pulp Fiction (1994). The director’s second feature-length picture turned out to be an unprecedented success, gaining near-universal acclaim among critics. The wildly popular avant-garde film set the tone for the director’s career and foreshadowed a filmography that has rivaled the greatest of all time.
Not only has Pulp Fiction become a cultural icon and landmark movie for cinema, but the dialogue-driven crime drama is also a blast to watch, and for any cinephile, it is a must see.

As stated above, Pulp Fiction is a dialogue-driven movie, meaning people talk... a lot. Now before you "shoot first, ask questions later" action fans lose interest, let me tell you that this movie is chalk-full of one-liners and monologues that you will be unable to stop quoting. Some of cinema's most iconic quotes come from the pages of Pulp's screenplay, and it is all one can do to stop him or herself from shouting some colorfully obscene lines while frustrated with a bit of math homework.

As for the nonlinear and, depending on how you view it, complex plot, it is a familiar but unique territory. The darkly comedic crime picture stars John Travolta as Vincent Vega, a heroin and Elvis loving hitman who can dance, and Samuel L. Jackson as Vincent's philosophical, gun-wielding partner, Jules Winnfield. The two men twist and turn their way through the streets of L.A. while on assignments and eating cheeseburgers. On the way, they run into several other characters who develop intertwining plots of their own, such as Butch, a boxer played by Bruce Willis, and Mrs. Mia Wallace, the wife of Vincent and Jules's boss, played by Uma Thurman.

Pulp Fiction has something to offer for everybody, whether it be an ironic shootout, a witty conversation between hitmen, or the comical situations Tarantino's characters find themselves in. Also, the film is full to the brim with pop culture references and pays homage to a myriad of films before it. Pulp Fiction pays its respects to the history of cinema and the art of film, and it takes its place as one of the all-time greats. It's more than worth the watch! †

Food Review:
The Naughty Greek (TNG)

BY GENESIS CARREON

I first came across The Naughty Greek when I was walking on University Avenue last Fall. Right away the large windows giving you a look inside grabbed my attention the environment seemed very inviting. So, later on, I took one of my friends to try it out with me. I had never before tried Greek food, but I'm someone who loves trying new things including foods so of course, I had to give it a chance.

Let me tell you that I'm so glad I did! My friend and I absolutely loved The Naughty Greek; the Gyros were delicious, the environment was inviting, and the staff was very friendly. I continue to go to TNG introducing it to my family and friends who all love it as well! I highly recommend it to everyone they have a variety of menu options I guarantee there is something for everyone!

Angelo Giovanis is the owner and founder of The Naughty Greek. I have spoken to him before, and I noticed the passion and love coming from his Greek roots which is very apparent in the food served at TNG. Angelo is from Greece his family owns restaurants there, so naturally, he grew up in the food business with his family. Living in the Twin Cities, he noticed no one was doing authentic Greek street food like what Angelo grew up with, so one thing led to another, and now there are two successful locations in the Twin Cities. Everything at TNG is sourced locally they use only fresh products made from scratch, for example, the salads, tzatziki, all their sauces are all made at TNG. The meats are sourced and prepared daily, and if the ingredients are Greek you better believe they come straight from Greece including the feta, olives and olive oil all come from Greece!

Naughty Greek is on a mission to be the number greek restaurant in the Twin Cities, and I believe they are close to reaching that goal, if not already there. They currently have two locations in St. Paul conveniently both very near Concordia, between both locations they are open seven days a week! The original location on the corner of Snelling and Selby open in 2016. This location is a cozy, inviting place which is walkable from Concordia or on-street parking is available. TNG shortly outgrew the space at Snelling, so they naturally had to open a larger location on the corner of University and Raymond. If you take the Green line to Raymond avenue, you are there, or on-site parking is available as well as street parking. TNG host several events throughout the year make sure to follow them on Instagram to stay in the loop @thenaughtygreek or check out their website. One thing you can add to your calendar is weekly Thursday nights live music from 5-7 at the University Location. They also do catering, and recently they started doing delivery in St. Paul only Tuesday through Sunday 4-8PM so go ahead and get that first order in!

Make some time in your scheduled to give this restaurant a taste! Go in and have an authentic pork, chicken or lamb gyro. Or try some of the other items on the menu, including a delicious greek salad, beef and lamb Kebabs, Chicken souvlaki among many other things and of course don’t forget an order of Naughty Fries! †
Music Review: *Genesis – Trespass*

ETHAN LANGEMO

One of the more divisive musical acts of the 70s and 80s, Genesis was a definitive progressive rock band that was not only influential in its music, but its stage productions as well, featuring incredible light shows and former lead singer Peter Gabriel’s extravagant costumes. When drummer Phil Collins took reign of the band, it still holds its place as one of the best prog-rock bands around, but it slowly transitioned into a pop band, which pushed away many long-time fans but also drew in new crowds.

*Trespass*, released in 1970, is an often-overlooked gem in the Genesis discography, due to it being released a year prior to their first breakthrough album *Nursery Cryme*, which went gold in France and silver in the UK. It is also one of the few albums not to have Phil Collins on drums. *Trespass* featured much of the same sounds and musical styles as some of their other landmark LPs such as *Foxtrot*, *The Lamb Lies Down on Broadway*, and *... And Then There Were Three...*, and should be associated with them as such.

*Trespass* opens with the contemplative “Looking for Someone.” Through clever lyrics and melodies ranging from a sickly-sweet melancholy to hopefully optimistic, we are put into the spirit of a man lost in life, who is not only looking for someone but is also looking for himself and the meaning of life. “White Mountain” employs a familiar, huge, string-filled sound and makes use of lyrics that tell the stories of medieval kings and battles, a theme present throughout many of Genesis’s early works in the 70s.

“Visions of Angels” is an epic song with expansive vocals which tells of a lost love and how the singer sees lights dancing in the sky before him. It is an early example of Peter Gabriel’s use of effects on his voice, giving himself an ethereal presence on the track.

The second half is home to the songs “Stagnation,” “Dusk,” and,”“The Knife.” The beginning of the first song contrasts the first half of the album’s energy with an intense, searching, coolness, and features a haunting sinewave synth solo which sounds not unlike a whistle echoing through a deep forest.

It then bounces back and forth between upbeatness and calmness, in which Gabriel sings of things as simple as fishing for minnows and drinking water for self-purification.

“Dusk” is another calm, woody piece that features the other members of the band on vocals, sounding as though they are coming from beyond a horizon, perhaps from the sunset itself. The lovely guitar arpeggios outline the beautiful, dimly lit scene the band is painting. *Trespass* closes out with the high energy of “The Knife,” a song about revolution and an uprising of people against an evil tyrant. This piece most resembles the band’s future style and high energy of “The Knife,” a song about revolution and an uprising of people against an evil tyrant. This piece most resembles the band’s future style and sound. It closes out the album in a dramatic fashion.

In regard to writing, Bjornstad says that has always had an interest in it, but only recently turned to creating character dialogues. This hobby is a recent discovery for her and has come to find that her stories and roles often develop by their own will. “You’re the one creating it, but then the characters begin to write it, not you,” she states. CSP theater professor Mark Rosenwinkel has been the source of the most learning for the budding actress, as well as the most challenges. For one, he has stressed how much plays change while you’re writing them, leading Bjornstad to have little difficulty scrapping entire in-progress plays and starting over. This new perspective on writing has been one of the aspects she has enjoyed most in her journey.

“I haven’t peaked yet,” she says. “High school and college have been two totally different worlds for me... More competition, more people, more talented people. It motivates me. There will be even more competition in the outside world. It is a slow process of growth, but it has certainly helped me become my own person.”

Bjornstad is a complex thinker, a seeker of experience, and a force to be reckoned with. Aside from that, she made it explicitly clear that she loves cats, a very pertinent detail to her story and personal development. “I look into their eyes and I see myself; my desire to sleep and eat and do nothing else,” she said with a smile. “Also, I like hugs! I just don’t look like I would like hugs.” There you have it, folks: An actress, writer, and hugger.

Photography provided by Brooke Steigauf

Pictured above is Marja Bjornstad

Theater Spotlight: *Marja Bjornstad*

BY BROOKE STEIGAUF

Marja Bjornstad is a multifaceted creative who’s brilliance gleams on stage and behind the scenes. While her focus is on acting, her creative nature has led her to costume design and writing plays as well. Bjornstad said, “Plays are so wonderful because they give the audience a chance to escape their own lives and view another’s. Each one gives a different message and is intended to be thought-provoking. The audience is left to question their own life, choices, and relationships.”

The actress/artist explained that the most difficult part of acting is making the character’s words her own. “You, as an actor, want to feel the emotions that the character is feeling so that you can truly become that character,” Bjornstad says that she sometimes experiences difficulty shedding the emotions and struggles of her characters after rehearsing. “Even when I was writing my own play, there were some really difficult issues throughout the scenes, and you are so engulfed in your work that you take on a bit of your character.”

Bjornstad expressed that what makes it all worth it is “feeling confident that you have portrayed your character in the correct way and that the audience receives something from that character.” Especially in the college theater setting, she says it takes extra effort but reaps additional rewards when your friends see the person on stage, whom they know so well, as the character and not their friend or peer.

In regard to writing, Bjornstad says that has always had an interest in it, but only recently turned to creating character dialogues. This hobby is a recent discovery for her and has come to find that her stories and roles often develop by their own will. “You’re the one creating it, but then the characters begin to write it, not you,” she states. CSP theater professor Mark Rosenwinkel has been the source of the most learning for the budding actress, as well as the most challenges. For one, he has stressed how much plays change while you’re writing them, leading Bjornstad to have little difficulty scrapping entire in-progress plays and starting over. This new perspective on writing has been one of the aspects she has enjoyed most in her journey.

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Concordia University will be presenting Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night this February. For those that don’t know the show, it is a tale of mistaken identity that follows a young woman named Viola through many trying encounters. Her involvement with Duke Orsino and the fair lady Olivia gets out of hand rather quickly when she decides to disguise herself as a man. Viola quickly realizes she is out of her depth when she falls for the Count and is fallen for by Olivia.

The show was written in the early 1600s, and like so many Shakespeare shows, it is frequently used all over the world. Under the direction of Mark Rosenwinkel, Twelfth Night will take a more contemporary shape. It will be set in the sunny Caribbean, and the characters will be dressed in a more modern fashion. This sets it apart from other presenting of the show that audiences may be familiar with and provides an opportunity for the set designer Justin Hooper to experiment with space.

(Above/below) are pictures of the set and while it is unfinished these pictures still won’t do justice to it. This unique series of platforms and ramps will surround a sand pit, which will be as much a part of the playing space as any ordinary stage. It will also solidify the feeling of being on an island or at the very least near the beach. While it’s not revolutionary, it does provide an entirely new challenge for the actors as well as the director. The audience will be split between the east and north walls of the black box theater making it difficult to simply play out to the audience. Instead, the actors have to play it as if it is theater in the round or three quarters.

The show will also have a heavy musical element to it and feature a small band that will both play during scenes as well as accompany several musical numbers there music has been built to match the relaxed and tropical feel of the rest of the show. Twelfth Night is a show that has been entertaining audiences since the 1600s, and that’s no surprise. The tried and true farce-like aspects of it are timeless, and the fresh take that the cast and direction are bringing to the show will only add to the depth and enjoyment. All that paired with a beautiful setting is what makes the show worth seeing.

The CSP show will run from February 21st to the 24th
February 2019 Horoscopes

BY BROOKE STEIGAUF

Aries | March 21-April 19
The demands of your learning process are increasing, but you have all that’s necessary to meet them and will be all the better for it. Persevere.

Taurus | April 20-May 20
While it may feel like life is a bit less stable than you’re comfortable with, control can be regained by balancing your perspective. Search for small moments of joy. Then, wallow in them.

Gemini | May 21-June 20
You are way over-doing it. Work on prioritizing, allowing yourself to decompress, and taking it day by day.

Cancer | June 21-July 22
You’re feeling a bit out of your shell, but feeling optimistic toward the future. Continue to hope for the best and trust your instincts. It will all work out in the end.

Leo | July 23-August 22
This month has you feeling antsy, as you always have high expectations. Be sure to communicate, especially with those who are close and dear to you.

Virgo | August 23-September 22
Your methodical brain is preventing you from seeing a creative solution to your most bothersome dilemma. Diverge from your norms, and a new perspective will greet you.

Libra | September 23-October 22
While you feel a bit off balance now, you are regaining your footing. Focus on what makes you feel good and let the rest go.

Scorpio | October 23-November 21
You feel most comfortable when you are in the company of those who you can trust with your emotions. Step out of your bubble for the sake of learning, but return to your safe zones to recharge.

Sagittarius | November 22-December 21
The truth for which you are currently searching will become exposed soon. Keep asking questions. Search for unturned stones.

Capricorn | December 22-January 19
It takes work to create an understanding between your feelings and what you “know” to be true. Journaling and making lists can assist you in finding the peace you long for.

Aquarius | January 20-February 18
Your concern for others is what makes you a great friend, but you must draw boundaries. It is okay to be someone’s shoulder to cry on but don’t let anyone steal your energy.

Pisces | February 19-March 20
You are quick to absorb the emotions and experiences of others and are wise as a result. Don’t hesitate to share what you have learned with others. Someone close to you can benefit from your insight.
American Heart Month Wordsearch

BY MACKENZIE KNORR

Find the following words in the puzzle. Words are hidden and wrapped around:

ANGINA
CARDIOMYOPATHIES
ARRHYTHMIA
HEART VALVE DISEASE
CARDIOMEGALY
AORTIC ANEURYSMS
CORONARYARTERY
HYPOTENSION
HEART FAILURE
HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
ATRIAL FIBRILLATION
HEART ATTACK
MURMUR
PERICARDITIS
STROKE

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Happy Valentine's Day Crossword

BY EDEN GARMAN

Across
1. They come in bouquets
2. Paul Stanley and Gene Simmons were part of this band
3. A genre of books and movies that has to do with love
6. An organ that beats in your chest
11. An intense feeling of deep affections
12. A person to whom one sends a card on February 14th
14. A person who has a romantic interest in someone, sometimes secretly

Down
1. A behavior when trying to attract someone
4. Made from cacao seeds, eating this raises spirits
5. To sing or play a piece of music in the open air to another, typically a lover
7. Birds that symbolize peace and love
8. If you are dating or married you are in this, if you are single, you are not
9. A rhythmical way of writing
10. The shortest month of the year
13. The Roman god of love