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THE SWORD

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2020 Presidential Candidates: *Educate Yourself!*

**BY ETHAN LANGEMO**

The 2016 election was a tense time, to say the very least. The unexpected election of President Donald Trump has forced Democratic voters to realize that they are not the only force in control of the playing field and cannot afford to be overconfident. As a result, recent state and local elections across the nation have seen a turn towards the blue. According to The New York Times, while the U.S. Senate saw the Democrats lose a few seats to the Republicans, the U.S. House saw almost a complete flip-flop, with Democrats jumping 40 seats and Republicans losing 40. It will be interesting to see if the next election follows the same pattern. Here are some of the top players:

**Democrats:**

**Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY):** Senator Gillibrand made her announcement January 15th. She is an advocate for women’s, LGBTQ, and people of color’s rights. She also has been instrumental in the #MeToo movement, and even called for President Trump’s resignation over sexual harassment allegations.

**Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN):** Perhaps one of the most highly anticipated candidates, the senator may well be the first Minnesota Democratic nominee since Walter Mondale in 1984. She has kept a relatively moderate status on issues, making her a favorable choice between Minnesota Republicans and Democrats alike. She also became a national favorite after her interaction with Justice Kavanaugh during his hearing.

**Senator Kamala Harris (D-CA):** This candidate began her campaign on MLK Day. As an ex-prosecutor and previous attorney general of California, she is mainly concerned with the criminal justice system and the welfare of lower-income families.

**Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ):** Senator Booker released a video on his website at the beginning of February announcing his candidacy. Like Senator Harris, he is focused on reforming criminal justice, as well as marijuana legalization.

**Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA):** the ex-Harvard Law Professor announced her run in early February of this year. President Trump himself has stated that he would like to see her run for office, despite his mockery for her Native American “heritage.” Her biggest issues are social and economic inequality.

**Senator Bernie Sanders (D-VT):** Once again, Senator Sanders has announced that he will be campaigning for the presidency. After losing to Secretary Clinton last run, there may yet be another chance for the aging socialist from Vermont. The issues he is fighting for are things like universal health care and free private colleges across the nation.

**Governor John Hickenlooper:** Hickenlooper was the moderate Democratic governor of Colorado from 2011 until this year. He does well with working with Colorado Republicans and thinks that he can help mend the fissure between our country’s parties. He is also concerned about climate change and health care and is confident that he can beat President Trump for the seat.

**Representative Beto O’Rourke (D-TX16):** Another anticipated candidate from the Democrats, this representative from Texas nearly beat Republican Ted Cruz for a seat in the Senate.
He has become popular for refusing to go with President Trump’s plan to “build a wall” – rather, he is pushing for opening up the borders to more immigration.

Republicans:

President Donald Trump: The only Republican candidate to officially begin a campaign, the New York businessman-turned-politician’s time as president has been filled with chaos, much thanks to the media who simply will not leave him alone. While his original run was made popular by the slogan “Make America Great Again,” President Trump’s next campaign has been focused on bringing America out of global mediocrity and pushing it to be the superpower it used to be looked up to as.

As of now, President Trump is the only official Republican candidate. All other potential individuals who have been asked, including several candidates from the last run, are not campaigning. There is one guy, Bill Weld, who has a committee together but hasn’t officially announced a run. With a few months before the race starts to kick in, it will be interesting to see which candidates drop out and who will join the race. Either way, one thing is for certain – it will not be an easy trail.

Hospitals Facing the Challenges of Mental Health Disorders

BY JULIA FOLZ

Alina, along with other hospitals, is now faced with problems concerning how to properly treat patients with mental health disorders. Patients that come into the hospital for their medical conditions are now more likely to have a mental health illness as well. Some of these patients are receiving care for their mental illness, but many are not. The amount of people with intellectual disabilities living in large state institutions has decreased by eighty-five percent from 1995 to 2009. With these massive decreases, hospitals are now facing more illnesses that need to be treated.

According to Jill Folz, a cardiac medical nurse at Alina, “We’re seeing an increase of patients with psychiatric disorders along with their medical conditions.” Hospitals are now facing the repercussions of the decrease in state institutions along with a decrease in psychiatrists. According to Folz, Alina hospitals do have mental health beds for those who need treatment for their mental health disorders, but there aren’t enough. Folz states, “If a patient with a mental health disorder is taken to the e.r. for a medical problem, they are unlikely to receive treatment for their mental health disorder until a mental health bed is available.” If a patient is unable to receive a mental health bed, they will still receive treatment for any other physical health problems. Folz says that, “This makes giving treatment for medical conditions as well as mental health treatment very challenging for hospital staff.” This could potentially put hospital staff and patients in unsafe scenarios.

Hospitals now offer two different routes of care depending on the health conditions of the patient. Patients either receive in-patient (in the hospital) or out-patient (not in the hospital) care. In general, hospitals want patients to receive out-patient care because this means that the doctors treat the problem and the patients go home to finish the healing process. Most patients receiving in-patient care are there because they are not healthy enough to go home.

The difference between in-patient and out-patient care plays a key role in treating mental health disorders. Since large state institutions and psychiatrists are both decreasing in availability, many patients with mental health disorders come to the hospital. Folz states that “In-patient medical floors are not equipped to be a psychiatric hospital”.

Patients with mental health disorders may not receive the proper treatment they need due to all of these shortages.

Additionally, Folz also states that hospitals “need more out-patient crisis resources” for mental health. If patients are not able to receive out-patient care when their mental health is worsening, this forces them to wait until their mental health becomes even more severe so that they are able to receive in-patient care. Having more out-patient care for mental health disorders could mean that there would be less patients on the medical floors with mental health crises and less of a shortage of mental health beds.

The Privacy Promise

BY ALEXANDRIA GOSEN

FACEBOOK CEO, MARK ZUCKERBERG, has come forward with a new privacy promise for his apps and websites. It is no secret that Facebook received most of its profit from collecting data from its users, and selling it to companies to target specific ads to them. Naturally, many people found this unnerving, resulting in Zuckerberg facing major backlash. This promise is Zuckerberg’s attempt at making amends to his loyal band of users. This Privacy Promise is composed of six general categories:

1. Private Interactions- This is people having comfortable ways to share and communicate without fear of people watching what they do.

2. Encryption- No one apart from the participating parties will have access to private communications including Facebook themselves.

3. Reducing Permanence- Similar to snapchat, messages and stories will not last forever.

4. Safety- Consumers should feel safe and protected using these apps.

5. Interoperability- Communication across apps

6. Secure Data Storage- Private information will not be stored in countries that have weak records on human rights such as privacy and personal freedom.

Zuckerberg has made some very strong promises, but many critics question his honorability. Some have claimed that the promises do not confront the targeting ad issue that got him here in the first place. Another critic claimed that these promises improve relationships with others, but not with the company itself. More have comforted saying that the combination of WhatsApp, Instagram, and Facebook is nothing but a plan to keep people from forsaking their facebook because it's more convenient to jump between apps.

According to a NYTimes article, Zuckerberg has been communicating with privacy experts, and concerned law enforcement officials. This is because, with the new virtually impenetrable encryptions, no outside force will be able to access any conversation. This, in theory, will make it easier to commit crimes online.

Some people are worried that the new privacy changes will undermine the basic premise upon which Facebook was originally founded: a way to get to know each other. Now it is creating more walls. Zuckerberg commented on this saying, “How this affects the business down the line, we’ll see, but if we do a good job in serving the need that people have, then there will certainly be an opportunity.”

Is this privacy change a good idea? Only time can tell. Like any business change, it will certainly be an interesting adaptation. If you are interested in reading the promise from the man himself, Zuckerberg’s privacy promise is accessible in his Facebook blog posts.
Hoax or Not, Innocent Until Proven Guilty

BY VICTORIA TURCIOS

AfTEr quESTIONING THE aLLEGED OFFENDERS that are said to have attacked Jussie Smollett in the early hours of January 29th, the investigation has taken a turn aiming guilt towards Smollett himself and his judge of character. They believe the actor could have potentially staged the attack, creating waves of anger amongst his supportive fans.

The American singer, photographer, director, and actor of the critically acclaimed TV show Empire may still be alleging that the two brothers arrested were the attackers, although he also has a relationship to them via his work on Empire. Smollett has now hired a high powered criminal defense attorney. According to a public interview with the Chicago Police Superintendent, Eddie Johnson, it is believed that the reason he staged the attack was to get a raise for his work on the Empire TV show.

In last month’s issue, The Sword article on the case focused on how “the attack on Jussie Smollett ignited a conversation nationwide on the disproportionate violence that targets black people, religious minorities, and LGBTQ people.” Recent updates, however, indicate that there could be even more to the issue than the violence itself but also the possibility of staging such violence for publicity. The mistrust instilled in Smollett’s fans, victims of hate-crimes, and allies of LGBTQ could have a huge impact on the future of these issues if he is found guilty.

A grand jury indicted him on sixteen counts of felony and disorderly conduct, carrying a prison sentence if he is found culpable. Arriving at court on March 14th, Smollett pleads not guilty and publicly claimed that he was betrayed by the system through the assumption that he staged the attack. Officers on the case say they have evidence that supports their allegations against Smollett. The development resulted in the cast and crew of Empire to remove Jussie Smollett’s character from the last two episodes of the show’s season. Chicago’s mayor Rahm Emanuel shared a few words during an interview with CNN showing his disconcert with Smollett and his possible actions, saying, “You want to get paid more, get an agent. But don’t use your sexual orientation, don’t use your race, and have everybody’s sympathies come to you and it turns out none of that was true.”

The way the pendulum is swinging for Jussie Smollett leaves a lot of things for speculation with the accusation of staging his own hate crime. With Smollett’s case yet to be closed, the reality is that hate crimes still exist and those sexual orientation, don’t use your race, and have everybody’s sympathies come to you and it turns out none of that was true.”

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Jussie Smollett Update

BY MATTHEW IUNG

A lot has happened since Jussie Smollett was allegedly assaulted. However, with his recent indictment it’s worth taking a look back and seeing what has taken place between then and now.

On January 29th Smollett alleges that he was attacked while walking back from a subway at 2 a.m. He told police that two masked assailants poured what may have been bleach on him as well as hanging a noose around his neck. In a follow-up with the police, Smollett alleged that his attackers used racial slurs as well as yelling “MAGA country.”
The center for disease control (CDC) reports twelve states with confirmed measles cases in the U.S. this year: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Texas, and Washington. There have been 228 individual cases reported between January 1st and March 7th, making 2019’s total over half that of 2018’s 372 cases, and in less than three months time.

Measles, a childhood viral infection that attacks the immune system and is usually preventable with a vaccine, has a 90% infection rate among those who are not vaccinated and come into contact with an infected person. Given the contagion rates and the seriousness of the disease, organizations such as the CDC and the World Health Organization advocate for vaccines, saying that the benefits outweigh any possible risks.

According to the CDC, "There will be further spread of measles in U.S. communities with pockets of unvaccinated people,"

while the source of outbreaks are linked to travelers coming from places overseas where measles runs more rampant.

Although Minnesota is not one of the states included in the CDC’s list, it was one of the ten states in 2018 to have a reported measles outbreak. There is an increasing concern over required vaccines for children entering school, and while there is only an estimated 2% of public school entrants whose parents claim exemption on non-medical grounds, that number fluctuates depending on the county. Many believe this is due to misinformation campaigns by anti-vaccine supporters.

Representative Mike Freiberg, DFL Golden Valley, proposed a bill called HF 1182 that’s aim is to provide funds for vaccine advocacy campaigns through a two-year grant. No budget amount has been set yet for the grant, but with mounting weariness about measles and other childhood illnesses, many are hoping the bill goes through as it is a step further towards achieving universal vaccination.

Second Man Free of HIV Leads Scientists One Step Closer to Finding Cure

By Halle Martin

A n anonymous man in London has seen his HIV go into remission after being treated for Hodgkin’s lymphoma. The man, known to the public as “the London patient,” received a bone marrow transplant for his cancer from a donor with HIV resistant cells. This lead to the patient’s own body developing these cells, causing the virus to seemingly disappear from his body. He is the second patient living with HIV to experience the virus’s remission since the disease broke out in 1981. This news comes twelve years after scientists cured the first patient, Timothy Brown, in Berlin.

Similarly, Timothy Brown had received two bone marrow transplants for leukemia from a donor with a mutated protein, known as CCR5, that coats the outside of certain immune cells. This protein is what the HIV virus binds to, using it to enter the cells. However, it is not able to enter through the mutated CCR5. After the transplant, Brown was given heavy doses of immunosuppressive medications which lead to deadly complications that forced doctors to put him into a medically induced coma. Brown survived the procedure and found himself not only cured of cancer, but all traces of the HIV virus seemed to be gone too. Eventually, Brown was able to discontinue the medication treating his HIV. Twelve years later, Brown continues to live his life HIV free.

Scientists continued to try the procedure on new patients after Brown’s success in 2007. Initially, the virus seemed to disappear in these patients as well but continued to re-emerge roughly nine months after they stopped taking their HIV medications. Due to the extensive medications and medically induced coma that nearly killed Brown, the case got written off as merely a fluke or perhaps a result of the intense attack on Brown’s immune system during said treatments.

Rise in Young Minnesota Voters

By Zack Moeller

A s the warm weather starts to roll in and more people begin announcing their campaigns for the next presidency, last fall’s midterm election is already starting to be a distant memory.

Some pretty interesting statistics and voting patterns were seen during that election, many which should be kept in mind as the race for the presidency comes online.

Minnesota saw young voters between ages 18 and 29 nearly double their election participation last fall, with almost 40% of young voters participating up from 21% in the midterms of 2014. This is quite a bit more than the turnout in voters aged 65-79, who only saw a 10% increase since the last midterm election. Older voters still reign supreme over the young vote, 80% of voters in the 65-79 category show up to vote, twice as much as the 40% in the 18-29 age range.

So what does the decreasing gap between young and old voters mean? Dan Hofrenning, a political science professor at St. Olaf College, called the statistics “striking.” He said that the increase in young voters should benefit the Democrats if the trend continues as the younger groups tend to be more liberal than the older groups. "It's clear that right now Millenials and Gen Xers are much more liberal than the rest of the electorate. Their House vote nationwide was 2-1 for Democrats," Hofrenning said. "On social issues, they are quite liberal, and increasingly they are asking questions about the capitalist economy." He attributes this rise in young voters to figures like Barack Obama and Bernie Sanders by connecting to the younger audience. The only thing in question is whether young voters will continue to hold their views as they age.

Another topic that could affect the young voter statistics is the push to lower the voting age from 16 to 18. Senator Shemia Fagan, a Portland Democrat, says lowering the voting age could bolster voter turnout, spur civic engagement, and encourage civic education. If the bill passes, the vote will appear on 2020 general election ballots. If passed by voters, the proposal would make Oregon the first in the nation to lower the statewide voting age to 16. Minnesota, as well as Arizona, North Dakota, and Michigan, have also pitched the idea to lower the voting age, having the potential to play a serious role in future elections and voter turnout.

Measles Outbreaks and Minnesota Vaccine Bill

By Eli Grubbs

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Voting age is already starting to be a distant memory.
Until the London patient, scientists believed one nearly had to die to be rid of the virus, if the phenomenon was duplicable at all.

Now, as news of the London patient has come out, scientists, doctors, and patients and their loved ones have been given new hope in coming a step closer to ending the AIDS epidemic and finding a cure. The London patient underwent a significantly less harmful procedure with less intensive immunosuppressors in May 2016 and discontinued his HIV medications in September 2017. The virus has yet to resurface.

Since its appearance in the 1980s, an estimated 70 million have been infected with the HIV virus, while approximately 35 million people have died from HIV or AIDS-related complications. While the number of those newly infected with HIV has gone down and leveled off over the last decade or so, it remains a serious threat, with roughly 39,000 new infections per year in America according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The number of those living with the virus do not know they are infected. Though treatment has advanced significantly since the epidemic first broke out and scientists have made substantial leeway in finding a cure, it is important to remember that HIV is still a present, but preventable, threat. The biggest step we can take in ending the spread of the virus is to raise awareness, take on preventative actions, and to get tested regularly.

Where’s the Snow Going to Go?

HARRY LIEN

This past month, Minnesotans endured the state’s snowiest February on record. Over thirty inches accumulated in the metro area surpassing the previous record of 26.5 inches set in 1962. Snow banks had begun to take the form of modest mountain ranges as Mother Nature continued her wrath. Fortunately, as we delve into spring, temperatures have risen well over freezing. Of course, this doesn’t come without a price. With the arrival of warmer temperatures, all of the snow laying around has plagued the region with threats of flooding. The concerns are especially high for those who live near rivers as ice jams are responsible for causing floods.

Ice jams occur on rivers when floating ice accumulates at a natural or man-made feature that impedes its progress downstream. Ice jams can significantly reduce the flow of a river and cause upstream flooding. These ice jams have continued to cause flooding among several Minnesotan creeks and rivers. According to the National Weather Service, an ice jam caused the Cottonwood River in New Ulm to rise around 5 feet in six hours over the course of Saturday 16th. This event sent water over a roadway and required the monitoring of authorities.

Other towns such as Jordan and Waterville have experienced significant flooding due to these ice jams. The National Weather Service recently issued a flood watch around areas close to the Zumbro River near Pine Island and Berne in southern Minnesota. Other rivers such as the Cannon and Mississippi (stretches near LaCrosse, Wisconsin) still have warnings under effect. This influx in flooding across the state, fortunately, and unfortunately, is short-term due to the rainy weather and melting snow. Cooler conditions alleviated the snowmelt and the ice jams. However, there is a significant risk of more river flooding as we approach Springtime.

For us in the metro, the Mississippi River has only been issued flood watches below South St. Paul, so there isn’t as much worry from officials about flooding in our urban areas. However, there is a concern with the potential of roofs collapsing in neighborhoods due to the excessive amount of snow and water looming on top of them. Kare11 News interviewed the president of Ice Dam Guys, a company that removes both snow and ice jams, Joe Palumbo. “That rain is going to soak it up until it’s super saturated and it will get to that point where it literally almost weights as much as water,” Joe Palumbo said. He also says he’s gotten an average of 200 jobs per day over the last few weeks. Experts, like Palumbo, recommend calling professionals and spending the night somewhere else if you suspect your home’s roof is in jeopardy of collapsing.

Photo provided by New Ulm Police Department

Floodwaters from Cottonwood River engulf a nearby road in New Ulm

You’re invited!

What: Human Library Event
When: Tuesday, April 16 12pm-1:30pm
Where: CSP Library

What is a Human Library?

A Human Library consists of “books” that are human. Each of these books volunteer to take part in the library. Like a regular library, a reader can check out books who then share their stories with the reader, leaving space for questions and dialogue. The goal of the Human Library to create a safe space in which participants can listen to and learn from others’ stories, as well as explore the barriers that separate and similarities that connect people from all backgrounds.
What the CSP Library can do for YOU!
New additions and radical changes explained

BY BROOKE STEIGAUF

CSP’s library has doubled as the student center for many years now, and it is beginning to shape itself to be more accommodating of that role. Recently, it has seemed like every time you walk in, something different is moved, missing, or changed. While the transitions may be confusing, it is all to the benefit of the students. The library team is seeking to condense its services and provide specific places for the various activities and desires of its users.

Multiple departments have moved locations into this space to make task-completion more convenient and efficient for everyone. Remember when the Help Desk was down the hall? Or when you had to ask for directions just to find the Writing Center? Now these services are all offered on the main floor of the library, along with Tutoring Services, International Student Services/Multilingual Language Support, research assistance, and even faculty BlackBoard support (from 10am–2pm).

Library Director Jon Neilson notes that, “Yes, the library has books and other physical materials and always will, but it’s also so much more than that.” Over the past year, 20,000 outdated books and 400 feet of shelving have been disassembled and removed to create more room for studying, hanging out, and receiving academic services.

The changes made were in accordance with observations of the students’ prior use of the library. For example, the south side (with the windows that look out onto the Knoll) has always been more social than the north side. With that in mind, the library is planning to install “cafe style seating” (high tables), collaborative work space where students can receive academic support services and also engage in both formal and informal cooperative learning, and more lounge seating.

Other notable changes on the horizon include a relocation and increase of the library computers to the south side, while its current placement will be remodeled to mirror the projector area on the other side of the dividing wall. Both these areas and their projectors will become more officially rentable for student use.

The library as a whole will also become a explicit place for events to be hosted. And while there will continue to be more alterations and ideas explored, one more to note is the addition of rentable cell phone chargers! Neilson and the planning committee hope that through intentional arrangement of space and services, they can balance the library as a social hub and academic attraction.

It is no secret that the library is for the students. With that in mind, we are encouraged to give our feedback in order to see that student needs and wants are met. If you have see a void or have ideas for the library, be proactive! Talk to anyone at the centrally-located desk or email Director Jon Neilson at neilson@csp.edu. Otherwise, take full advantage of the space! It is yours to use, after all! †

Drug maker to Sell Insulin Half Price

BY ANDREW WYLIE

Drug manufacturer Eli Lilly & Co. will soon begin to sell insulin at half the price. The company currently distributes one of the bestselling insulin drugs, called Humalog. But this new model is considered a generic version that will sell for half the cost, providing a much-needed price reduction for a product that has drawn plenty of criticism over the last few years because of skyrocketing costs.

There are currently three major pharmaceutical companies that distribute insulin: Novo Nordisk, Sanofi, and Lilly. These companies all contend that the hefty prices are due to the extraordinarily high costs involved in manufacturing this particular type of insulin.

Insulin is born out of a very large and very complex molecule. Its complexity stems from the fact that insulin is now genetically modified as an analog insulin. This change took place in the 1990s and has all but replaced the synthetic insulin that was used previously. The analog version reportedly works faster and with more predictable results, but the costs of manufacturing the analog insulin versus the synthetic are significantly higher.

Regardless of the reasons, many have viewed the high costs of insulin as unfair and financially burdensome. It has become a political hot topic, with many politicians searching for answers in combating this issue that is affecting so many. A few execs of these companies have been summoned to Washington to testify at hearings.

There is also currently a class action lawsuit against the three manufacturers which accuse them all of setting the prices unnecessarily high in order to maximize their profits.

There is no doubt that one of the reasons for the high price of the drug is that for many people, their insurance plans do not adequately carry enough of the costs. Patients are left having to cover a large percentage with their co-pays, or in some cases, the whole cost.

According to Yahoo finance, out-of-pocket costs for patients with commercial insurance and Medicare have increased about 60% since 2012, while the price of insulin has only decreased marginally in the same period. Having an authorized generic option of the real thing will help stem these high out-of-pocket costs for patients that are struggling to pay for the medication they so desperately need. The Lilly half-price generic pen goes for $137.35. This is the first real discount that has arrived on the market.

With millions of Americans suffering from diabetes, this may pressure the other two companies to follow suit with their own lower priced options. With growing awareness and pressure being put on the political class, there is hope that more solutions will arrive soon. †
Are We Sure We Want Veterans Guarding Our Schools?

BY JULIA FOLZ

First off, I would like to say that I greatly respect our veterans and those who are currently in the military. They have made several sacrifices in life so that Americans have been able to enjoy the privileges that the United States offers. While those who have served our country have knowledge about guns, the skill set to potentially stop an active shooter, and the bravery to do so, they still may not be our best option.

Many veterans come home with a variety of different mental health disorders due to what they have had to do and see while at war. According to the National Veterans Foundation "2.1 million veterans received mental health treatment from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in the five year period from 2006 through 2010". Do we really want people with mental illnesses watching over our children with a loaded gun? I can empathize with these veterans, as I understand the impact that mental illness can have on one’s life, but I cannot bring myself to accept that they could potentially be standing in our schools with a weapon.

So many veterans that come home from war zones cannot handle hearing loud noises that may sound like a gun or bomb going off. These people may not be able properly cope with the shouting of children, a pan dropping in the cafeteria, or the slamming of lockers. This country does not need anymore horrific accidents, nor do the veterans that have already seen some of the worst parts of human nature.

While mental health screenings and the proper training could be a solution, we have to then prepare ourselves for that extra cost. The money used to pay these veterans should not be coming out of the money set aside for education. Schools are already struggling to pay for good teachers, janitors, para-professionals, text books, art supplies, science equipment, gym equipment, musical instruments, --the list goes on. Our education system does not need the extra bill that would come with hiring security guards.

Our schools also need security guards that are equipped to handle difficult situations. There may be a person who is a possible threat to the school, but has no weapon. A veteran might immediately go into battle mode when that may in reality just escalate the situation making it even more dangerous.

Schools in Florida and Texas are already beginning to hire veterans for school security without thinking about the potentially dangerous situations that this could put their schools in. Before sending people who have been trained for war into our schools, we need to think about the consequences and the lives of our young American citizens.

Senator Bernie Sanders (D-VT) is making his second run for President after a previous close race. Photography provided by New York Post.

With the announcement of Senator Bernie Sanders (D-VT)’s second presidential campaign, many Democrats who rooted for Sanders in the previous election may be questioning whether or not they will be supporting him in the upcoming vote. He certainly had a major impact on the Democratic party, but to his disadvantage, this may cause him to stand out less than he did in the previous run, due to many other candidates being inspired by his stances.

In the 2018 election, there was a hard Democratic push across the nation, as the party worked to take back some much needed congressional power, while advocating for more diversity in congress overall. Despite his popularity, Bernie perfectly fits the category of what the Democrats often describe as a backward moving force of leadership in America— rich, white, old guys. Surprising to some, this is what made up all but one of the Democratic presidential candidates in the last election, while the Republicans had a diversity of genders, races, ages, and backgrounds.

One thing he may have going for him is that though he has improved his chances of election by running with a major party, though he considers himself an independent politician. This might make him stand out to Democratic voters who are unhappy with the state of the party and are looking for someone who leans toward strictly socialist ideals. Overall though, it is difficult to consider him a true independent when he votes Democrat, caucuses with Democrats, has Democratic ideals, and consistently runs as a Democrat.

On March 15th, Senator Sanders’ campaign crew made history as the first crew to unionize. Right now, the union has 45 employees, but is expected to grow to over 1,000 employees through the run of the campaign. The union, with the United Food and Commercial Workers (ufcw), entails the guarantee of, “pay parity and transparency on the campaign, with no gender bias or harassment, and equal treatment for every worker, whether they’re in Washington, D.C., Iowa, New Hampshire, or anywhere else," according to ufcw Local 400 President Mark P. Federici.

Bernie Sanders made an unexpected rise to success in the 2016 run, but ultimately, fell short; he may have a chance this next time around. However, the fact that many of his new contenders reflect the same values that had once been Bernie’s stand out qualities, may cause him to lose his novelty and appeal. All and all, Bernie fans still have to sit back hope that the Democratic primary isn’t rigged against him this time around, (if he makes it that far).
Spring Cleaning: Tips and Tricks

BY KYLEE BALDWIN

Spring has sprung and it’s time to transform your home into a fresh space! Spring cleaning can be a daunting task, but it doesn’t have to be! And best of all, with an organized home comes an organized mind! Below are some tips and tricks to create a positive and productive spring cleaning experience.

Tip 1: Find your motivation.
The hardest part of cleaning for most of us is finding the motivation to get started. The first thing you can do is reflect on what gets you motivated to do anything. For some, the nicer weather and sunshine are enough to kickstart the desire to clean after a cold, dark winter. For others, motivation can be more specific. For me, motivation is listening to podcasts! When I see one of my favorite podcasters post a new episode, I will always save the podcast until I am ready to clean. This way, I can focus all of my attention on listening to that podcast. Not only does it create an incentive to start cleaning ASAP, but it also functions as an ongoing reward during the cleaning process!

Tip 2: Set a goal for yourself.
Setting goals is a great way to make sure that you complete the tasks that you want to finish. Goals can be simple, and do not require any significant effort. Your goal could be as simple as organizing one drawer in your bedroom every night before going to bed. This is a short, low effort task, and can be done even with a busy schedule. Most importantly, it makes it so that your larger goal of spring cleaning will be completed over time.

Tip 3: Break it down.
A big part of spring cleaning is organizing your space. However, it can be quite intimidating to think about every space that needs to be cleaned and organized. Break it down in a schedule that makes sense to you. On a large scale, you could separate the work by picking a different room each day. Maybe you clean your room on Monday, the bathroom on Tuesday, and your kitchen on Wednesday. On a smaller scale, you can break down your cleaning by certain sections of the room. I recommend this if you’re a little too busy to do an entire room. You could start by organizing the desk drawers one day, and your dresser drawers the next.

Tip 4: Make it a positive experience.
Remember, the whole reason you’re spring cleaning is because it’s spring! This means that you can enjoy the weather and clean simultaneously. Daylight savings has just passed, which means there’s more sunlight into the evenings. While cleaning, make sure to open up the blinds to enjoy the sunlight! Along with sun, take advantage of the warmer days by opening up windows and getting some fresh air. Spring cleaning takes place after being stuck indoors in a dark and stuffy space for too long; the fresh air and sunlight can completely reverse those feelings!

Now that you’ve got some tips, some tricks, and some new motivation, get home and get cleaning. Good luck! 

To Vaccinate or Not to Vaccinate?

BY MACKENZIE KNORR

The rising controversy between pro-vaxxers and anti-vaxxers has reached an all-time high in 2019. So far, twenty states across the U.S. have introduced bills potentially allowing citizens more ways to claim exemption from vaccinations. Over half the states can claim vaccine exemption due to religious reasons, while the rest of can claim exemption because of personal belief. The question is, how involved should legislation be when it comes to a person’s medical choices?

While those who choose not to follow vaccination regulations are within their rights to do so, pro-vaxxers are quick to point out the welfare and health of the general public. Vaccines prevent widespread outbreaks of potentially deadly diseases that have not been prevalent for decades, sometimes centuries. Since the rise in anti-vaxxers, there has been a rise in outbreaks of various diseases across the United States. The issue with arguments presented by anti-vaxxers has to do with the reliability. Decades of medical research and testing prove vaccines to be safe and successful to use, however, thousands of people fall victim to misinformation about the possible effects of vaccines. Doctors warn citizens not to buy into false pseudosciences, but many still spread and believe the myth that vaccines cause autism and other diseases.

Though it has been proven that vaccines do not contribute to autism, there are still rare side effects that can stem from vaccines. CNN’s chief medical correspondent, Dr. Sanjay Gupta, says that a person is “100 times more likely to be struck by lightning” than have a side effect from a vaccine. The fear people possess towards vaccine side effects could easily be subdued. The promotion of more comprehensive education on the topic, paired with an effort to combat the spreading of misinformation will ultimately contribute to a more productive discussion about this on-going issue.

The Worst Invasive Species: The Human

BY HEIDI KRAMLINGER

Don’t we all hate invasive species? Zebras mussels invade our lakes and are harmful to native fish. The Brown Marmorated Stink bug, which is native to Asia, takes over people’s homes, filling them with stench and an annoying buzz. Invasive species do quite well for themselves; they adapt well to diverse environments and attempt to take over what they need or want to. There is one invasive species that has done an immense amount of damage, more so in the last few decades: this horrific creature is the human.

The Alaotra Grebe is a small bird that once lived in marshy areas. This bird was wiped off the planet mostly due to poaching and fishing.

The Caribbean Monk Seal, the only native seal to those waters, were quickly killed off due to overhunting, as humans were constantly seeking their meat and oil; they went officially extinct in 2008.

The Christmas Island Pipistrelle was a microbat that used to fly over the Indian Ocean in huge numbers, although today they are never seen, as they were declared extinct in 2009. The reason for their extinction was thought to be pesticides.

The Spix Macaw, featured in the children’s movie, Rio, was declared extinct just last year in 2018. They are no longer in the wild due to deforestation and hunting. The movie Rio was once based on an endangered animal, but now the movie’s animal is only one of the past.

Those species are only four out of dozens of others that have ceased to exist in the past few decades. The reason for every one of these extinctions traces back to humans—every single one. Our biodiversity on Earth is very rapidly declining, and the first step in the effort to solve this problem is to recognize that we are at the root of the issue. Ecosystems are dependent on diversity within. Each species is interrelated to another and can collapse due to a small change in an environment, such as an extinction. Extinction is a chain reaction, however, it is not impossible to make a change.

Spread the word. Teach one another how to love and care for animals. Self actualize. Consider the potential impact of your actions. Realize that we are the problem, but we can also be the solution. Do what you have to do; whether it is producing less pollution (fewer straws, ride a bike and not a car), volunteering at an endangered species conservation group, or simply educating others on the impact that extinction has on our world.
A Right Denied: 50 year-old law is still being broken today

BY KENNEDY WILLIAMS

The Fair Housing Act was passed in 1968, prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, sex, religion, and nation of origin when it came to the sale, rental, and financing of housing. States have passed their own laws further protecting the rights of the LGBTQ community and those with disabilities. In Minnesota we have the Minnesota Human Rights Act, which was passed in 1973. Much like the rights granted to African Americans in the 13th and 14th amendments, people found ways of working around these laws, and it is often done in a very subtle manner to avoid controversy and lawsuits. Realtors will oftentimes tell an individual no more homes are available when in fact, they are. This is clearly depicted in the short documentary, A Matter of Place, by Fred Freiberg.

As stated in A Matter of Place, “Real estate brokers or landlords, they discriminate with a handshake and a smile. It’s actually done often in a sort of congenial way. As if what we should expect is that you would want to live over there with other minorities and not in this neighborhood, we have nothing for you here.” Members of the LGBTQ community receive similar treatment. In the film, a homosexual man is harassed relentlessly in his apartment complex, and another man is given the worst apartment available simply because he was HIV+. This issue continues to hit close to home in recent years, as the city of Faribault, Minnesota was sued in the summer of 2018 for housing discrimination against African American and Somali families.

A study conducted by the University of Minnesota in November of 2018 states, “The exhibit is particularly poignant in light of a recent study that ranks Minneapolis as the 4th worst city in the country for black residents, states, “The exhibit is particularly poignant in light of a recent study that ranks Minneapolis as the 4th worst city in the country for black residents, including among other statistics, a homeownership rate of just 24.6 percent, versus nearly 76 percent among whites.” It is unbelievable that this kind of discrimination and denial of basic housing rights is still occurring. Everyone has the right to safe housing, especially if they have good credit and a steady income. Equal housing testers have helped to solve this problem, but oftentimes it is hard to tell if an act is one of discrimination or whether it is simply a coincidence that the person on the receiving end is an individual belonging to a minority group. The job of an equal housing tester is to go through the same process that the individual belonging to a minority group went through and see if they are given the same housing opportunity. This helps the prosecution in civil court cases.

The main way that you and I can help work towards more equal housing is to report an issue of discrimination when we see or experience one to the Fair Housing Center Justice. Since the Equal Housing Act is already a law with multiple clauses added, another law would not do much good in helping the situation. These realtors and landlords are finding ways to work around the law that is already in place and has been for the past fifty years, and it will take personal action of multiple individuals to truly solve this problem. Reporting will not be a simple process. It will be followed by equal housing investigations and eventually a civil lawsuit if it gets that far. For these reasons, housing discrimination in underreported and not many statistics can be found. Housing discrimination was purposely instilled to segregate America and it is appalling that we continue to carry out this practice today. ❅

The Downside of Increased Wages

BY DANA MURPHY

Since spring of 2018, there has been significant discussion regarding hourly wages for tipped service employees, especially in the restaurant industry. In 2017, Minneapolis passed a $15 minimum wage law. Furthermore, Minnesota has long been one of only seven states that does not allow employers to take a tip credit, which would allow employers to pay tipped employees less than minimum wage, as long as employees make enough in tips to make up the difference.

In addition to the inability to instill a tip credit, the increase in minimum wage has caused restaurant owners to panic and consider other options. Restaurant owners simply cannot afford to pay their staff $15 an hour, and will either have to cut their employee's hours or collect a service charge. The most popular alternative being considered is the latter: replacing traditional tipping with an automatic service charge. Restaurants would instead collect an 18% service charge and equally distribute it amongst the restaurant and its staff.

One restaurant, Heyday on Lyndale Avenue South in Minneapolis, went as far as to try out the concept of a service charge and quickly learned that it was hurtful not only to the business and its staff but also confusing and not preferred by guests. Servers found that they made significantly more money when they were paid credit and cash tips left to the discretion of the guests. In October of 2018, a protest was held in St. Paul where a crowd of servers, bartenders, and other tipped employees gathered to protest the new minimum wage. One protestor, a server herself, explained that she could make twice as much an hour, including tips, when using the traditional tipping method versus using the 18% service charge method.

As an experienced server myself, I can understand the loss of income that would come with this system. Around the holidays, I make a lot more in tips than I would if I were making $15 an hour plus a service charge that I would only receive part of. Even in slower times, like summer, I still make more on average than what the new minimum wage standards can offer me. Of course, this is not the case for every restaurant and tipped employee. Income depends heavily on the restaurant itself, the location, the demographic, the level of service, and several other factors.

Once the required minimum wage reaches $15 an hour for tipped employees, I see no harm in allowing companies who staff employees who work for tips using a tip credit system. If not this, restaurants could also consider raising the prices of their food and beverages and in turn, pay their employees more, even if it is a set hourly wage with no tipping required. As long as the servers are still making close to what they could at a restaurant that pays hourly plus tips, then I see little issues with this method.

While raising the minimum wage in Minneapolis will no doubt be beneficial to all hourly workers, those of us who work for tips need to be taken into consideration too. More problems will inevitably arise with the new minimum wage law, and before anything is permanently set in place, all options need to be measured in order to cater to all types of employees to ensure a successful economy across the board. ❅
The Momo Challenge:
A Lesson in Digital Literacy

BY ALEXANDRIA GOSEN

The internet has been notorious for viral challenges, both dangerous and not. There has been planking, harlem shaking, the cinnamon challenge, and the ice bucket challenge; all of these are relatively safe if done correctly. However, there are a few challenges that are more harmful than fun. One that is popping up right now is called the Momo Challenge. There are not any viral videos of anyone participating in Momo, merely a terrifying image attached to other news articles warning parents.

So, what is the “Momo Challenge?” I think it’s important to start by saying that the challenge has been labeled as a hoax. Several investigators have said there is no real threat with Momo, but the problem goes deeper than the scary image we are seeing. The legend with Momo is that it is a game found on WhatsApp. Basically, kids would message this “person” and then Momo would give them instructions to harm themselves. Reader caution: I would not advise that anyone look for these videos. They can be incredibly triggering for viewers of all ages. I only watched one video for the purpose of this article, and I could not make it through the second.

Though it has been labeled a hoax, the idea behind this challenge is very similar to that of the “Blue Whale Challenge,” which rose to fame primarily around in 2015 and 2016 and was found to be popular in Ukraine, Russia, and right here in the United States. The people who ran the game would seek out sad, lonely-looking kids online and invite them to play. Similar to the concept of 2016’s film, Nerve, these kids would receive dares that would grow more and more sinister. It would begin with something along the lines like, “Stay up later than bedtime,” and it would end with the player being told to commit suicide. The challenge was set at fifty challenges for a fifty day timeframe. However, this has also been theorized as a legend created by people, much like Momo.

Now we have Momo- a creation whose image began as just a piece of art. Because of its use in the horrendous challenge, the artist destroyed the piece and alerted the world that Momo was officially “dead.” If only its image could be permanently erased that easily.

I personally am not certain about whether or not these challenges are real. I have seen the videos, but as the old saying goes, just because you read about it online, doesn’t make it true. Despite this, I do believe it suggests a new danger and form of exploitation on the internet. Maybe these challenges were not real, but even so, the power of the internet is in fact growing. It is plausible that the next big serial killer will use this form of communication and manipulation to collect their victims.

That being said, I think right now is a crucial time to be teaching children even more internet safety, as well as exercising more cautious behavior ourselves. Several parents have blocked their children from using YouTube. A few YouTubers have even requested children stay off YouTube for a while. I think it is important for parents, siblings, teachers, and even babysitters to be aware of what the children in their lives are doing.

If your young, impressionable sister, child, or nanny kid wants to watch a video, watch it with them just to make sure she is not being manipulated. Have a conversation about its content afterward and in general, discuss the power of media. There is no age too young to do so. A little involvement can go a long way. Lastly, if you do come across Momo in any videos, or anything else of its nature in the future, report that video immediately. Nothing can disappear forever, not anymore, but it can be buried deep—hopefully, never to return. ♔

A Blindfolded Justice System

BY VICTORIA TURCIOS

Do you know what the Lady Justice statue looks like? The icon for our courts and judicial system, the personification of morality, wears a blindfold while holding a balance and a sword. That blindfold is meant to represent impartiality, which is the goal for the ideal justice system that is meant to disregard wealth, power, or any other kind of status. The latest news of Manafort’s sentencing raises questions about this impartiality and other disparities that are rampant in the current criminal justice system when it comes to race and class.

While discussing Paul Manafort’s seven and a half year sentencing, MSNBC compared his sentencing to the twenty-eight years prison sentence of former Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick for corruption and financial crimes. They tapped into a government analysis made by the Detroit Metro Times which stated that, “prison sentences between 2012 and 2016 found black male offenders received sentences that were on average nearly twenty percent longer than similarly situated white men.” Keep in mind that Paul Manafort’s federal crimes, included tax evasion, lying to the government, and aiding a foreign power in stealing and being involved in an American election. Seven-and-a-half years went against sentencing guidelines which called for about 20 years on Manafort’s case.

Public outrage was strong after Manafort’s sentencing regarding his white-collar crimes. The Guardian, a British publication for international news, found through criminological research that, “white-collar defendants are likely to fare well compared to lower status offenders.” What considers someone to be white-collar? According to the Business Dictionary, it refers to anyone with a higher rank profession that requires no manual labor, is non-routine and a knowledge extensive job. Manafort’s sentencing show a sad truth in the research that both MSNBC and The Guardian found, resulting in wealth and status playing a role in sentencing despite severity of crimes in a judicial system that would sentence someone for possessing marijuana with ten years in prison, a much lesser crime than the lengthy list that Manafort is guilty of.

At the same time that Manafort was sentenced, another case widely covered was a massive college cheating scandal where at least fifty people have already been charged. Colleges named in the scandal included Yale, USC, UCLA, Stanford, and Georgetown amongst others. The parents involved included successful investors, actresses, a fashion designer, and even a chairman of a law-firm. Fake records and photoshopped photos for students to appear as athletes, to bribery for college admission reaching six figures per student were involved. The students resulted in getting admitted to these colleges not by their merit but through a fraud approach. The perplexing inequality culture being displayed from the judicial system to our college admissions is now in full display. The real question is, how will we go the extra mile to start holding these systems accountable? ♔
Representative Ilhan Omar is the first woman to wear a hijab on the floor of Congress and she has been drawing a lot of media attention lately. This attention is related to her comments regarding the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine, as well as lobbying groups here in the states.

According to NPR reporter Cody Nelson, this all began in February when, “Omar responded to a tweet from journalist Glenn Greenwald, who posted about House GOP Leader Kevin McCarthy threatening to punish Omar and another congresswoman for being critical of Israel.” Omar fired back with a Puff Daddy line “It’s all about the Benjamins baby.” I’m not going to lie, this makes me laugh a little because it this simple quote was actually very quickly made into an issue of anti-Semitism. At the very worst, this is an insensitive stereotype-fueled joke, but it’s much more likely that she was trying to make a point, and a joke while she was at it. Following this, Omar made a point of calling out the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC).

It’s worth pointing out that Omar did indeed apologize, but she also held strong to her their critique of AIPAC, which brought things back into balance– at least until the media found something else they could hold against her. In response to claims of prejudice and bigotry from congresswoman Nita Lowey, Omar responded via Twitter, “Our democracy is built on debate, Congresswoman! I should not be expected to have allegiance/pledge support to a foreign country in order to serve my country in Congress or serve on the committee. The people of the 5th elected me to serve their interest. I am sure we agree on that!” This was quickly conflated as an accusation of dual loyalty.

This may not have been so controversial had she not already been in the news. Dual loyalty has been leveled at Catholics regarding the Pope, the Japanese Americans during world war II, as well as German and Italian American citizens. Like so many thing it has also been unfairly thrown at Jews as well. The thing is, a lot of people are going to accuse Omar of the exact same thing for no other reason than because she is a Muslim woman.

It’s not hard not to see why this is a perfect wedge issue to drive the Democratic party. No one wants to be labeled as anti-Semitic for simply asking questions, let alone taking a stance as Omar has. At the same time, they are all able to agree on the broadest of broad strokes in their most recent anti-hate resolution. From the other side of the isle, the Republicans who have been attacking Omar haven’t stopped to consider their own use of anti-Semitic slips, whether they be recent, in the past, or made by the president, and they certainly have not stopped to question or show any concern over their own Islamophobic rhetoric.

In addition to the media, her own party, and the Republicans weaponizing Omar’s words in order to silence her, President Trump has suggested that Omar resign. She has also received death threats, one was written in the men’s room of a Holiday she frequents it simply said “Assassinate Ilhan Omar.” These are extreme responses to what are admittedly poorly worded comments, questions and critics. There’s no more malice in what Omar is doing than when Bernie Sanders wrote a letter to the Secretary of State in favor of Palestine. He emphasized that more aid is sent to Palestinians, stressing the facts of the humanitarian crises while holding Israel responsible in part. This segues the Sanders has an understanding of how complex the issue truly is, he has also come out in support of Omar recently.

Omar may not have taken a less-than-elegant route in making her point on a sensitive issue, but that does not negate what she has to say. She is trying to call attention to the fact that whenever someone wants to talk about Palestine, they are labeled a “jew hater”, and then the cycle starts all over again, ensuring that we never get to talk about Palestine. Is it so different this time?

Whether or not this version of the conversation continues is yet to be seen, but the line is moving. From these comments, I believe that it is a far cry to say that Representative Omar is an anti-Semite. On the contrary, she seems to understand that being pro-Israel is no longer the simplest position to hold. With the walls around this issue breaking to break down, it’s important to be listing to the voices that are willing to speak out. Even if that means we have to ask for clarification or have uncomfortable conversations. Overall, it’s better to be confronted by something that provokes thought then to simply have the party line wrapped around your neck. †
CSP Baseball Aims For A Moonshot Season
BY VICTORIA TURCIOS

The CSP baseball team recently made their way home from the Tucson Invitational in Arizona, going 8-3 in 11 games. The Tucson invitational offers NAIA schools, Junior colleges, Division 3, and teams from the midwest such as the Golden Bears a chance to play in real baseball facilities, rather than stay indoors with Minnesota's unpredictable weather. According to senior outfielder Jake Steckler, a fun fact about the Kino Sports Complex the players get to use is that it was at one point a minor league facility for the Arizona Diamondbacks and Chicago White Sox.

Steckler noted how the best part of the trip is the time the guys get to bond as a team, “The one event we all look forward to is our annual belly flop contest for all the newcomers on the last night of our trip. It’s just a fun thing we do to bring everyone together after a successful trip.” And successful it was, the time the team has spent together seems to have paid off as their performance in Arizona shows they’re hitting the ground running.

Last year, although losing to Augustana 9-10 in the end, the team reached the championship final in a strong season. Many of the 17 seniors who are currently leading the pack have also been with the CSP Bears through two other NSIC Conference Tournament Championships. While these seniors bring experience and support, everyone has a role to play if they’re aiming to make an appearance in the championship again. Steckler assures that with great talent on the roster and senior leadership, a title is in their sights as well as the regional tournament, but they’re looking to focus on one series at a time.

With a few professional baseball hopefuls on the team; Louie Varland, Zach Lauzon, Keanu Mendez, and Josh Gaworski, to name a few, the Junior Louie Varland has already been making headlines. He was named the NCBWA Central Region Pitcher of the week ending on March 10th, as well as being named the NSIC Pitcher of the same week on March 11th.

According to the CSP Bears news, Varland, “struck out a career-high 11 in 8.0 shutout innings against SMSU,” and he’s just getting started. As for Steckler, he will be hanging up his spikes and venturing into the world of business after the season is over to pursue his career. He will be leaving CSP with more than just a diploma, “The biggest thing I can look back on over my years here at CSP is how great of an experience I have had with the people who have been by my side. Our team is like one big family and I love each and every one of them like my brother. That is the culture our coaches have built within our program and I am honored I got to be a part of it for the last four years.”

CSP Track & Field Prepares for Outdoor Season
BY HARRY LIEN

After wrapping up a strong indoor season last month, the Concordia men’s and women’s track team look forward to the snow melting and spiking up for outdoor competition. The outdoor season is set to begin March 30th, as the team travels down to Kansas for the Emporia State Relays.

Transitioning from the indoor season, the team looks to continue off their success and improve even more. Assistant coach Jonathan Breitbarth speaks about the team’s expectations: “(Head Coach) Sam Johnson has done a great job working with the team leadership to set high expectations. We are committed to doing everything with a purpose and to sacrifice in each and every practice for the team.”

The team’s coaches believe the team will find success through applying these principles. Coach Breitbarth also alluded to the team’s goals for the season, saying, “We look to improve at the NSIC (conference) outdoor championships upon our NSIC indoor team finish.”

The men’s side finished sixth last February at the indoor NSIC conference meet while the women’s side finished thirteenth. As the Golden Bears roll onto the outdoor season, the team looks to compete with a purpose and make strides for victory!

Men’s Golf Tees Off the 2019 Spring Season
BY RILEY EDLING

The Concordia-St. Paul men’s golf team kicked off their 2019 spring season at the Polar Vortex Triangular in Scottsdale, Arizona on the 8th of March. Starting off on a high note was sophomore golfer Taylor Zack, as he earned individual medalist honors by shooting a 73 (+1) to win the eighteen-hole tournament hosted at McCormick Ranch Golf Club. Zack’s one-over-par win was the leading score by two strokes.

The Golden Bears finished the tournament with a score of 320 (+32) as a team. The team was competing with fellow NSIC competitors Sioux Falls and Minnesota State. Both competing teams posted a score of 316 (+28).

Coming into the spring season, Taylor Zack was recognized as the number two golfer in the NSIC in scoring average. His last season’s average of 73 was equal to his score at the Polar Vortex Triangular. His impressive spring showcase was also highlighted by leading the tournament with four birdies and tied for the best par-four and par-five scores.

Continued on page 16
CSP Marketing Program Takes On The West Coast

BY VICTORIA TURCIOS

I remember walking into Dr. Nancy Harrower’s marketing research class last fall, without knowing anyone or what to expect. Saying I felt intimidated would be an understatement. To my surprise, I was the only graphic design major in the course, and the only junior. Little did I know that I’d end up being a part of the team that would travel to San Diego for a national competition.

The National Grocers Association puts together case studies for schools to apply to, compete, and experience marketing on a whole different level. This was the competition I was assigned for Dr. Harrower’s class; we were split into teams and while mine worked on the NGA, the rest of the class took on a different case study. The approach to the class was different than any I had ever experienced. Nancy was not only our professor for this; one could have called her a boss or a mentor. In reality, she became our creative director as she helped us figure out the best approach to the problem we were given. The cool thing was that it made what we were doing feel real like this would most likely be the environment I’d work in if I decided to pursue a job at a marketing agency once I graduate. Soon our classes turned into meetings, research turned into real-life interviews, and revision rounds into presentations.

When I interviewed Nancy Harrower for this article, she explained how these competitions best prepare students for their industry, “In the real world, business people have to research and understand the environments and customer needs. The same is true for these competitions. Students research using both secondary and primary research methods, analyze findings, and prepare a full marketing/business solution to solve a problem.” Ask me anything about millennials in the workforce, diversity executive positions, or about the grocery industry, and I may know the answer because of this competition. Thus, truly showing the benefits of why more professors and programs should have the chance to do the same at a collegiate level. Even Nancy agreed, “It is such an important environment for growth and learning that I wish more students could have that chance. Whenever a professor can show the real-world example of a course teaching, it adds knowledge and excitement for the students (and professors)!”

My teammates; Spencer Bergen, Caleb Troe, Hope Schiller, Jake Steckler, and myself didn’t know what to expect when we arrived in California, but we knew we had put the work in for our case study. We were to help a Memphis based grocer find better ways to approach a diverse population of millennials to work for them. CSP was the only school that attended the competition that didn’t have the resource of a food marketing program, yet we approached the case study with very similar strategies as the other 12 schools that attended thanks to all of our research. We got the chance to network with professionals in the industry, be a part of a mentorship program throughout the time spent at the NGA conference, and experience the West Coast in a different way.

Our team may not have won the competition but we walked away closer as a team, confident in the work we had done, and with Spencer Bergen and Caleb Troe tying for first place at the NGA’s charity 5k. With this being Dr. Nancy Harrower’s second year having a team for this specific competition I wanted to know what it’s like for her having students that she teaches have these experiences. The professor said, “I have to say it feels great! I have the opportunity to guide and teach, and then see how students take those principles and make them their own. I work with students over a period of months, travel with them, and get to see them in action. I am so proud! You are the next generation of leaders. The world is in good hands.” †
Photography provided by Spencer Bergen

The photos represent the trip the CSP Marketing team took to San Diego
A welcomed newcomer and recent transfer is sophomore Mason Fiddle, who competed in his first event as a Golden Bear. After his transfer from the University of Minnesota, his team debut was one to be noticed, as he posted a score of 77 (+5) where he placed fourth overall in the tournament. Fiddle was tied for the tournament lead in par-three scoring by shooting even on those holes while also being tied 2nd overall for birdies shot (3). Fiddle is a left handed golfer who is native of White Bear Lake, Minnesota.

Gavin Jocelyn posted the next top score for the Golden bears. The junior shot a score of 81 (+9) to finish 10th. Freshman Nick Navarro was close behind with a score of 82 (+10) to tie for 11th while Thomas Huettl tied for 14th overall with a score of 83 (+12). Seniors Brian Peterson (85, +13) and Tyler Dunn (87, +15) rounded out csp’s golfers involved in the spring season opener.†

Photography provided by Mary-Clare Couillard

Golden Bear Lacrosse Begins Year Three

BY ZACK MOELLER

The Concordia-St. Paul women’s lacrosse team begins their third season as part of the NCAA DI program as well as their second season as part of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Conference (GLIC). The Golden Bears placed fourth out of nine in the GLIC preseason coaches’ poll. The team placed fifth in the conference last season and will look to better that position as the still new team is one more year experienced.

The team is led this season by first year head coach Heather Coppola who was the team’s top assistant coach and offensive coordinator last season. The team also boasts ten players returning for their third year of play with the team. Good comradery on the team should prove beneficial as the team heads into gliac play in the later portion of the season. Concordia is led by its three returning All-gliac Second Team selections, juniors Katie Lottsfeldt in the goal, Maddie Hentges on attack, and Sara Stickler on defense.

The Golden Bears began their season with five non-conference games, including a tough matchup against the fourth ranked team in the nation, Lindenwood. The team went 3-2 in those games, including dropping a heartbreaker to csu-Pueblo 10-11 in which the team almost came back from a 5-2 halftime deficit. The team has played two GLIC games so far this season, splitting the two. This includes a hard fought 12-9 victory over Davenport, who Concordia will more than likely be jockeying for position in the standings for the remainder of the season. Alina Boyce scored 6 goals for the Bears in that game tied for second most in program history for a single game.

The offensive attack so far this season has been led by the duo of Hentges and Boyce with 14 and 15 goals scored respectively. The two are also leading the team overall in points with Hentges at 20 and Boyce at 19. On the defensive side of things, it’s really been a team effort with seven Golden Bears causing five or more forced turnovers. Lottsfeldt has been the team’s number one goalie so far this season with 44 saves on the season so far and a .454 save percentage.

The team has nine more conference games this season, ending their conference season with three huge games against twelfth ranked Indianapolis, nineteenth ranked Grand Valley State, and a rematch with Davenport that could have a lot riding on it. The GLIC season tournament is at the end of April into May followed by the NCAA Midwest tournament and National Tournament, should the team continue to win at the end of their season.†

Minnesota Wild Make Late Season Push Towards Playoffs

BY: ANDREW WYLIE

The Minnesota Wild are at the tail end of their season and fighting for a spot in the Western Conference playoffs. In a year that has seen many ups and downs, the Wild are up against the Colorado Avalanche and the Phoenix Coyotes for the last wild card spot with nine games left to go. If the Wild succeed in making it to the playoffs, they will have earned it, as nearly all the remaining games on the schedule are against teams that are already qualified for the playoffs.

Earlier this season, the team suffered serious injuries to two of their core players, captain Mikko Koivu and star defenseman Matt Dumba. Koivu tore his ACL in February and is out for the season. Dumba was injured in January and may be able to come back at some point to aid the Wild if they can reach the playoffs.

The Wild were further disrupted last month by the departures of longtime players Mikael Granlund and Charlie Coyle, who were traded for Kevin Fiala and Ryan Donato respectively. These trades were perceived by some as General Manager Paul Fenton waiving the white flag after the Wild had lost eight out of nine games.

The Wild responded with an impressive five-game winning streak. Donato has shown himself to be a capable player alongside stars Zach Parise and Eric Staal, both of whom have played well. This has kept their playoff potential alive as the teams behind them in the standings have struggled. But, continuing the season’s long trend of inconsistency, the Wild have since dropped five of their last seven contests.

If the Wild can make the playoffs, it will be interesting to see what they can do. If goaltender Devan Dubnyk can get hot and if his Wild teammates can play up to their potential, anything can happen.

The Wild have had impressive wins this year, such as when they dominated the league leading Tampa Bay Lightning with a 3-0 shutout. They have also been shut out twice by bottom dwellers Anaheim Ducks. They have shown that they can beat anyone when they play together, and they can lose to the worst teams in the league when they do not.

The Wild have made the playoffs every season since 2013. With all that they have been through this season, this would be a very impressive accomplishment if they can pull together and make it seven seasons in a row.†
Women’s Golf: A Fall Season Recap  
BY RILEY EDLING

Concordia-St. Paul's women's golf team finished their 2018 fall season with numerous highlights and improvements from both the team and individual perspectives. The team finished top five in four of the five fall tournaments, marking Concordia as a serious contender for the upcoming spring season.

The Golden Bears had two of the top eleven golfers in the NSIC by scoring average in the fall, with senior Sophie Hill ranking seventh at 78.4 strokes per round and freshman Lexi Partington ranking eleventh at 79.4 strokes per round. The pair looks to lead the team again this spring.

Hill started off her fall season with back-to-back wins, finishing first at the Tracy Lane Memorial Classic and the Golden Bear Classic. The great play didn’t stop there for the senior as she added a third place finish at the NSIC Preview as well. Sophie Hill is currently the leader in program history in career strokes per round at 79.6.

Partington showed an impressive display by starting her collegiate golf career by leading the team with four top-ten finishes. Partington had between 75 and 83 strokes in each of her ten rounds played of the fall season, marking her as a consistent contributor to the team. The freshman also tied Hill with the best tournament score of the fall season, shooting a 151 at the Ramada Mustang Invite to finish 8th of 103 golfers.

Not far behind is Erika Olson, with a fall season average of 80.7 strokes per round. Olson had the lowest individual round last fall, shooting a 73 at the Central Region Preview. She also collected two top-ten finishes. Per Cole Schuessler, when asking Head Coach Taylor Ramirez about the sophomore, “Erika Olson is a great leader on and off the golf course. She has made an big impact on the program thus far, brings light to the team, and is very competitive.”

Contributing this spring is also freshman Katelyn Baribeau, junior Heather Claussen, senior Sheridan McCoy, and sophomore Emma Robinson. McCoy, Claussen, and Baribeau had quality rounds last fall where they each improved in their play. Robinson was recovering from injury in the fall and looks to return this spring to contribute to lowering the teams score on the season.

CSP Softball Starts Off the Season Red Hot  
BY TYLER DUNN

The 2019 Concordia Softball season has been underway despite one of the snowiest winters in recent history. Despite the cold temperatures in St. Paul, the Golden Bears have been red hot on the field in the month of March. The Golden Bear softball team kicked off the month of March competing in the Spring Games in Clermont, Florida. The Golden Bears started the trip off hot with a flurry of runs outscoring Clarion (Pennsylvania) 13-1 in the second game of the tournament.

The Golden Bears continued their impressive play with wins over the University of the Sciences and Malone. The tournament was extremely fast paced as the Golden Bears played double headers on five consecutive days. During the spring trip, the Golden Bears outscored their opponents by a score of 62 to 22 during the ten games. The Golden Bears strung off an impressive five consecutive wins during the tournament to go 8-2 overall while in the Sunshine State. While the Bears record from the tournament was impressive, they dropped their final game in Florida in a nail biter to Seton Hill (PA) by a score of 6-4. Overall, the trip was extremely successful for the Golden Bears softball team.

Looking ahead, Concordia will travel to Emporia, Kansas for some regional action in the 2019 Emporia Classic. The Golden Bears will face off against some of the top teams in the MIAA starting off the trip playing Central Missouri, Washburn and host school Emporia State. The Golden Bears will then finish off the trip with a double header against Pittsburg State and Northeastern State before beginning conference play.

Currently the Golden Bears sit at 11-6 and will look to close out their non-conference schedule on a high note before jumping into Northern Sun play. The Golden Bears will then begin conference play with three consecutive road trips, playing a doubleheader against Minnesota State before traveling to central North Dakota to play Minot State and Mary. Concordia will then finally return home to play host to Upper Iowa in early April at Carlander Field in St. Paul.

The Golden Bears will look to continue their momentum from their early season success and make a push to the postseason. The team has an abundance of senior leadership as well as some talented underclassmen who will hopefully lead the Bears to make a run in the postseason.
**Vikings Look to Bolster Offensive Line in the Off-Season**

**BY ZACK MOELLER**

There was a lot of hype around the Minnesota Vikings in the 2018 season. Coming off a near Super Bowl appearance, the team felt like they were one piece away from winning it all. So in the 2017 off-season, they spent big money to bring in Kirk Cousins, an untested but rumored stud of a quarterback.

The time was right, the defense was fantastic, the offense was dangerous; it was supposed to be the year. Unfortunately, in the most Minnesotan sports way, the Vikings failed to even make the playoffs. How could they be so close and then miss the playoffs altogether?

But the past is past. Looking forward, the Vikings have a few things they need to do this off season to get things back on track and working towards another playoff run. The main thing that needed to be handled this off season was the offensive line, which was horrendous last season. After the first wave of free agency, the offensive line unfortunately took a step backwards after Nick Easton left for the New Orleans Saints. All free agent moves so far have been with keeping the defense in line by resigning Anthony Barr after he almost signed with the Jets and restructuring Everson Griffen’s deal. The Viking’s other main free agent on the defensive side, Sheldon Richardson, signed a deal with the Browns at the beginning of free agency.

While keeping Barr and Griffen will be great for the defense in the future, the Vikings struggled to move the ball at all at the end of the season due to having a poor offensive line. No matter how good the defense is, the team will not find success without changing some of their big men. About a week into free agency, the Vikings took the first step in revamping the offensive line, signing former Titans guard Josh Kline to a three year deal.

Another place the team could look to get some linemen is in the 2019 draft which is at the end of April. The Vikings have one pick in each of the first four rounds and several picks later in the draft. It would be shocking if the team didn’t take a lineman with some of those picks if they haven’t signed any guards for the Wolves (Tyus Jones, Derrick Rose, and Jeff Teague) are all on their last year of a contract, and the team will look to keep two. This leads to the last bright spot of the season, the rise of Derrick Rose. Rose has had a breakout season after multiple mediocre seasons trying to come back from two horrific knee injuries. When healthy, Rose has shown he still has plenty in the tank to give to his team and has made a strong case for sixth man of the year award this season.

If the Vikings can continue to improve the line at all before the season begins, fans have the right to be excited for the Vikings to be a threat again this season. If no such changes are made, it could be another long, painful season. †

**Minnesota Timberwolves Season All but Over**

**BY ZACK MOELLER**

If the Jimmy Butler fiasco at the beginning of the season wasn’t enough of an ominous warning as to how the Timberwolves season was going to end up, one look at their record and remaining schedule should be enough to convince even the most die-hard fans that the Timberwolves’ season is all but over. With thirteen games left, the team finds themselves five games below .500, 7.5 games out from a playoff spot, and boasting the third hardest remaining schedule in the entire league. Coming off the team’s first playoff appearance in over a decade, the season should have been one filled with optimism as the team’s young core should have begun to grow into a powerhouse in the Western Conference... So what happened?

The final days of the off season marked the beginning of the end of All-Star Jimmy Butler’s short stay in Minnesota. Butler’s growing disdain for upper management and teammates boiled over into an ugly departure from the team resulting in a trade to the Philadelphia 76ers. Although the Timberwolves looked to save face by acquiring solid players in the trade, the wheels continued to come off as the team fired then head coach Tom Thibodeau for his handling of the Butler situation and replacing him with interim head coach Ryan Saunders, son of the late Flip Saunders. While the team initially responded well to the turnover and went on a small winning streak, the team has been more mediocre recently.

Some of poor performance can be credited to injuries, including a key one to Robert Covington, a player received in the Butler Trade, which has sidelined him ever since the turn of the new year. Covington’s absence has caused the Timberwolves to return to a poor defensive team after surging higher in defensive rating with his addition.

The name Andrew Wiggins is also starting to sound like a broken record at this point. Wiggins, full of potential, has had yet another disappointing season; historically bad amongst high usage players in the modern NBA history bad. If you need more of an explanation, take a look at his season shot chart.

Believe it or not, among all the negatives and mediocrity, there is some glimmers of success. Karl Anthony-Towns has been an absolute madman since his appearance in the All-Star game. In that time Towns has averaged thirty-four points, 13.4 rebounds, 3.4 assists, and 1.2 blocks with a shooting line of .606/.506/.800 including a couple games before the break. He has also led in the league in player efficiency rating since that time.

Minnesota native Tyus Jones has been playing well for the Timberwolves as well, averaging ten points and almost five assists per game. All three point-guards for the Wolves (Tyus Jones, Derrick Rose, and Jeff Teague) are all on their last year of a contract, and the team will look to keep two. This leads to the last bright spot of the season, the rise of Derrick Rose. Rose has had a breakout season after multiple mediocre seasons trying to come back from two horrific leg knee injuries. When healthy, Rose has shown he still has plenty in the tank to give to his team and has made a strong case for sixth man of the year award this season.

On paper, the Timberwolves have what it takes to be a very competitive team. When they have the drive to play hard and can manage to stay healthy, they can be very good. Depending on what they do in the off-season, fans could have a lot to look forward to next season, it’s just unfortunate to have to talk about next season before this season is even over. †
Book Review: *Everyone's a Aliebn When Ur a Aliebn Too* by Jommy Sun
BY ALEXANDRIA ROSE GOSEN

In Jommy Sun’s graphic novel *Everyone’s a Aliebn When Ur a Aliebn Too*, we follow the story of Jomny, a lonely alien sent to Earth to study the humans. Along his journey, he learns about the highs and lows of life. He learns of friendship, creation, existentialism, depression, and basic connection with others.

In an effort to get rid of him for a while, Jomny is sent to Earth by his peers to study the humans. Though he never encounters any humans, he does meet a wise tree, existential egg, an introverted hedgehog, and extraverted otter. He also encounters a lonely bear, and the terrors of winter.

This book is written with a very childlike nature that will spark nostalgia in your heart and soul. This book is a pure combination of philosophy, poetry, discovery, and children's picture book that covers topics of loss, love, loneliness, and the terrors and joy of change. Jommy makes friends for the first time in his life as he learns that it’s okay to be different and stand out. He also learns that even though life is sad sometimes, you should take advantage of the good moments that come around.

*Everyone’s a Aliebn When Ur a Aliebn Too* has great reviews from many of its readers, including actor and playwright Lin Manuel Miranda. Miranda says, “Jommy Sun’s incredible writing knocks you to the floor, breathless, then scoops you up and gives you a kiss where it hurts it occurs to you to cry. Read this book only if you want to feel more alive.”

I found this book heartwarming and motivating. It wanted to find a bouncy castle and relive my childhood days with all my friends. I felt like I wasn’t alone in my times of grief. It’s one of those books that addresses some of your more complex thoughts, but writes it in a way a four-year-old could understand, and somehow that makes it more clear for me to understand my thoughts and feelings. I hope you like this book as much as I did. †

Food Review: *The Little Oven*
BY ANDREW WYLIE

The Little Oven is a quaint and popular restaurant located on the East Side of Saint Paul on White Bear Avenue, about a half mile north of Highway 94. This beloved neighborhood staple has been in business since 1990 and is known for its generous portions and reasonable prices.

The Little Oven is simple but charming inside, displaying quaint décor. There can be a wait during busy times, but the service is friendly, and the food comes out quick and hot. They run multiple specials during the year. Their current promotion includes multiple dishes designed for Lent.

The breakfast options are magnificent and available until 2 pm. Fill your plate with favorites like fresh eggs, crispy bacon or sausage, toast, pancakes, and hash browns for a very fair price.

Besides their breakfast, the Little Oven offers multiple dishes for lunch and dinner including everything from steak, hamburgers, soups, chicken, salad, and appetizers. There are also many vegetarian and gluten-free options, but what they are really famous for are their pizza and Italian food. The lasagna was voted the best in the state by wcfo, the Minneapolis CBS affiliate.

I ordered the lasagna, which was preceded by fresh breadsticks (made on site), which come with seasoned butter and again, in very generous portions. These breadsticks were warm, fresh, and delectable. It took willpower not to eat all of them right away and ruin my appetite before the entrée arrived.

The lasagna was worth it. The sauce was sublime, and the cheese was portioned perfectly. You need to put a little extra force with your knife to get the cheese separated for a bite. If you come hungry, you may be able to finish this plate, but to-go boxes are a familiar sight at the little oven.

Their pizza is also a favorite and for good reason. The crust alone is good enough to make the dish desirable. I like the sausage best because it really does taste superior to your average sausage pizza from a chain restaurant. The Little Oven runs a special on its takeout pizza, where if you buy one, you can get another one for $3.99, making it a popular option.

There are so many other tantalizing Italian options that I can’t wait to get to. According to my friendly waitress Maria, the Chicken Alfredo Milano is another popular dish that people come back for again and again.

If you have room for dessert, the most popular option is the sweet fried dough. It comes in bite-size portions with a side of chocolate fudge and whipped cream for dipping. This Italian favorite tastes a little bit like a doughnut and was fantastic. I couldn’t eat anywhere near as much as I wanted because, by this time, I was very full.

The Little Oven is well worth a visit. They are open at 6:30 am every day except for Sunday, when they open at 7 am. They close at 9 pm during the week and at 9:30 during the weekends. There is a parking lot across the street as well as on-street parking on Minnehaha Avenue where the restaurant is located.

Come very hungry and be ready to take some home with you. There is free Wi-Fi as well if you bring some work with you. This is a cash-only restaurant, but if you forget to bring some, there is an ATM on site. †
Theater Spotlight: **Maurice Fields III**

**BY ALEXANDRIA GOSEN**

Imagine being frozen for twenty-nine years, unaware of your surroundings, time, or anything outside your being. One day you wake up in an unfamiliar room with bright lights, and there is a man near, a man you do not know. It almost sounds like Sleeping Beauty, which is an interesting way to describe Harold Pinter’s one act play, *A Kind of Alaska*.

In this show, we meet Barbra, a girl who became catatonic around what we believe to be age sixteen and woke up twenty-nine years later. She has slept through her family tragedies, World War II, and several other milestones in her life. Director Maurice Fields III explained that the play itself is the story of Barbara’s sister and Doctor attempting to find a way to fill in the blanks of Barbra’s life; As Barbra asks more questions, the blanks in her life become harder to fill.

This show is very complex, and is complemented with a simple set in a intimate setting which. Really immerses you in the story. Cast with Kallie Jo Aeschman, Anna Haselmann, and Ryan Skille,, the show is very small but powerful. It made me question several things, as every good production does. Harold Pinter’s script does not offer many answers, but it does open your mind to contemplation and reflection.

As previously stated, this show was directed by csp student Maurice Fields III. He is known for his dancing, acting, and dark sense of humor, but was highly successful at this role as well. There is a lot of mental preparation that goes into any field within the realm of the theater. Fields says, “The biggest difference between preparing for acting and preparing for directing is you’re not preparing yourself for engaging for the psychological activity of being another person while also trying to be yourself. As a director, you have to understand the full scope of everything, understanding why each character is important to the story.”

Fields says he prefers directing: “I have a lot more fun doing it. I can see the play for what it truly is, from a directorial standpoint, and see it from the outsider’s perspective instead of playing it myself. [Directing] is what I’ve always had an image of in my brain... I think my ideas are too big sometimes to continue doing acting. I would rather shape things than physically do them.”

**Movie Review: Climax**

**BY MATTHEW IUNG**

The film was written, all five pages of it, and directed by Gaspar Noe. For the most part, the actors are improving at embracing where the music and mood take them. Climax was awarded the Art Cinema Award at the Cannes Film Festival and was released in France in September of 2018.

It covers the story of a group of French dancers whose drinks are spiked with LSD during a party. The viewer joins the group for a rehearsal that is a part of a ten-minute single shot opening. There is a lot of talent on display as well as some beautiful camera work. After they finish, their party begins, and the viewer is introduced to the characters and their dynamics within the group. From there, things begin to unravel slowly, and for some, the tenuous holds they have on reality snaps fast. The viewer is dragged down the rabbit hole, but instead of coming out the other end into wonderland, they will find themselves in hell.

Climax’s cinematography has a fluidity that is hard to find and takes its influence from director Stanley Kubrick and his films *Apocalypse Now* and *2001: A Space Odyssey*. The pacing of the descent in Climax is almost mythological in a way there is an otherworldly quality to it that is truly outside of life. This is very much like the long river ride in *Apocalypse Now* and the way that the film utilizes sound is almost the same in 2001 *A Space Odyssey*. This practice is to make it so that the viewer is never without some kind of audio even if they are not fully aware of it. This is used to set the tone and more often than not to disturb, more than once the repetition of screaming is the base sound in a sequence.

Cross that feeling of the “other” with the sheer grotesqueness the imagery and of human nature on display, the film begins to resemble a Hunter S. Thompson “Fear and Loathing” story. While there is no journalism to Climax, even if it is based on a true story, it seeks the same truth that Thompson’s did. Thompson’s Gonzo reporting was the product of heavy drug use on the authors part as well as a blurring of the line between fact and fiction. The final destination of both the Thompson and Noe work, however, as they got to the dark heart of humanity. The film does just that and leaves a few unanswered questions as well, not about what happened but why it happened the way it did. There are several developed characters that the viewer has the opportunity to watch transform, and whether their journey is central or off to the side, it makes for a fascinating journey.

I highly recommend Climax to those who enjoy locked room mysteries and physiological horror as genres, as well as those who are into unique cinematography and the art of finding strange ways to represent mood through camera work.
Music Review: David Bowie

BY ETHAN LANGEMO

Celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, David Bowie’s David Bowie is not the first David Bowie released by David Bowie. In fact, the first David Bowie was released in 1967, but due to poor sales, 1969’s David Bowie is regarded as the “true” version, as well as being considered as his official debut album.

One of the things that made this album kickstart Bowie’s career is that the album holds many of the styles and sounds found in later hit albums such as Hunky Dory, Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders From Mars, and Heros. The opening track, “Space Oddity,” is one of his biggest hits out of his career spanning half a century. Right off the bat, we are introduced to Bowie’s incredible storytelling about an astronaut lost in space. This is followed by “Unwashed and Somewhat Slightly Dazed,” a more traditional 60’s rocker complete with bluesy harmonica, and “Letter to Hermione,” a soft, sweet, surreal ballad.

One of the most underrated Bowie tracks, “Cygnet Committee,” is track four. At nine and a half minutes, it is one of is longer songs and is chock full of intense, interesting imagery that seems to have multiple stories and musical themes rolled into one magnificent masterpiece. “Janine” is is another rocker, almost like a stripped back “Unwashed.” “An Occasional Dream” has a similar sound to “Space Oddity,” with soft lyrics floating over a swirling myriad of acoustic guitars, strings, and flutes.

“Wild Eyed Boy from Freecloud” is another story-based song filled with gorgeous orchestral sweeps of horns, strings, and harps which tells of the fantastical adventure of a boy on Freecloud Mountain. The catchy melodies of “God Knows I’m Good” are sure to get stuck in your head, along with its words of an old woman stealing and hoping God will not notice their actions and her following consequences.

The album closes out with the epic, reverberant, “Memory of a Free Festival,” introduced by a reed organ which sounds very similar to one which I have in my dorm. The song descends into chaos, and slowly but surely, Bowie gives a beautiful image of people gathering for a party at night marches out of the noise: “The sun machine is coming down, we’re gonna have a party.”

No doubt, David Bowie had an enormous impact on David Bowie’s career, as well as the entire music industry. It is indeed a “debut album” to be reckoned with. The experimentation present on the album lasted throughout his career and did not end with his death in 2016, as his music continues to inspire musicians like me to experiment and be open to using odd and unconventional sounds.

The Hobbit Review

BY MATTHEW IUNG

The Children’s Theater present’s J.R.R. Tolkien’s The Hobbit: A show was adapted and directed by Greg Banks. The show has a cast of five actors who play a range of roles throughout. The show does its best to condense the long book into just two hours for kids. This means that the story is being boiled down to its base elements. The Hobbit is a story about stepping outside of your comfort zone, and that’s something that we all struggle with at times. At the close of the tale, there is also a moral that teaches about greed and how it not only drives people apart but to hate as well. These are not preached at the audience, but they are made clear through the development of the characters. Of those characters, Orin and Bilbo are the center pieces, and these actors play off one another expertly. Each of the actors also plays the part of an ork or a troll or an elf, and they do this through smooth transitions and body language shifts.

The music in addition to being performed live was immersive and could really draw in the listener. What the show may have lacked in what most viewers would have considered spectacle after possibly seeing Peter Jacksons vision of the same story in theaters. Composer Thomas Johnson says “I like to think of it as a magic carpet ride that the actors sit on, sweeping them (and the audience) away from the first moment of our story to the end.”

It’s worth noting the design aspects of the show because it’s unlike anything I have seen accosted with Tolkien’s vision of middle earth. For this adaptation, the whole production had a steampunk and depression-era feel. The set was all meant to look like rotting iron and condemned mines and factories, which gives the show a distinct feeling that sets it apart from the more Traditional visions of Peter Jackson and Ralph Bakshi. The set was as versatile as the actors on it, providing plenty of room to have chases, jail cells, and mountain climbing.

This adaptation is not only a good way for kids to get in to authors like Tolkien, but it also acts as a way to reenvisaging a story that for most have been firmly defined in their own minds and by others. As well as showing audiences the essentials of what makes this story timeless and applicable to more than just the time it was written, it.

Things to see at MCAD and the MIA

BY MATTHEW IUNG

Women & Museums

Sara VanDerBeek’s career has allowed her to examine that museums interrupt the past through objects of history. The Mia describes the excitement as a collaboration with “staff to select and photograph collection objects that resonate with her experiences as an artist, mother, and woman.” Her photography is placed across from pieces that act as a sort of raw inspiration material as well as examples as other work done by women. These objects are from the Mia’s collection and range from masks to sculptures to woven baskets and even clothing. Two that caught my eye were Wellington Lee’s Magic Eye and the woven basket done by an Inde (Apache) artist.

Though only six of VanDerBeek’s photo works were on display, they are the beginning begging of “Women & Museums” as a larger photographic work. That has placed her working with instructions such as the National Archeological Museum in Naples, The Ashmolean Museum of Oxford and the Warburg Institute in London. The Mia describes VanDerBeek’s work as, “a poetic and associate view into the evolving lives and forms of women, as well as an exploration of Institutional authorship.”

I recommend going to see what this exhibition has to offer because for the majority of what we consider history women have been portrayed and evaluated by men.
ARTS & VARIETY

Through this reexamination of art and the way that it’s displayed, there is opportunity to view these artifacts through a modern form of expression. It is giving the viewers a opportunity to reevaluate what they may have previously thought and perhaps exposing viewers to art that they may not have associated with women in the first place.

Sabbatical Exhibitions at MCAD

MCAD is exhibiting their fine arts faculty sabbatical work from the previous year. Michael Kareken is a large part of the display. MCAD writes “Kareken will spotlight new watercolor monotypes that he produced and exhibited at Highpoint Center for Printmaking as well as a selection of content crayon drawings that are highlighted in his recent publication Parts.” These are highly detailed pieces that really pop in the strangest of ways the use of a single color in some cases and style make it seem like theses perhaps are photographs. In fact, I once mis took Kareken drawings as photographs when I saw them at a different gallery. While it’s not as flashy or as big as what the MIA has going on right now that doesn’t detract from the fact that a working local artist’s projects are on display.†

Spring into Dance VI

MAY 2ND - MAY 5TH, 2019
CSP’S E.M. PEARSON THEATRE

csp’s annual dance concert featuring original choreography of both faculty and students in a wide variety of dance styles, including, contemporary, modern, jazz, tap, musical theatre, Hmong, hip hop, swing and ballroom.
Neo-Surrealism Display from Natasha Dikareva and Vladimir Dikarev

BY JULIA HAMANN

Artists Natasha Dikareva and Vladimir Dikarev present their works at Concordia’s “Return to Concordia” which opened Thursday, March 14th.

Within Vladimir Dikarev’s captivating neo-surrealist pieces and Natasha Dikareva’s gleaming clay-porcelain statuettes can be seen incorporations of symbolism inspired by Eastern spirituality and philosophy. The gallery is awash with beautiful pastels, delicate statuettes and free-flowing feminine lines giving the air a rich, colorful aura.

The pieces from both artists complement one another as both share mystical and feminine qualities within most of the works shown. Dikareva and Dikarev use their works as a medium to express the intangible, elusive things of dream-like dimensions, or as Natasha Dikareva says, “between the physical present and the imaginative future”. This is shown through her statuettes depicting women of the Eastern European nations and Asia. One work in particular titled “Queen Bee” depicts a bust of a woman and an organic, rough crown atop her head and base as though nature has a part in the statuette’s creation.

Natasha Dikareva was born and raised in Kiev, Ukraine prior to the Chernobyl disaster of April 1986. Due to nuclear decontamination of the surroundings many Ukrainians like Dikareva were moved to evacuate. Dikareva fled to the United States and joined Concordia University as a Resident Artist. Dikareva had already established herself as a ceramic sculpture artist in Ukraine, so she worked and succeeded in reinstating herself now where she resides in San Francisco, CA. Eventually more of her family immigrated to the United States, including her mentor, an already well-established illustrator, painter and educator, Vladimir Dikarev.

Both Dikareva and Dikarev allow themselves be the vessel in which the art is translated to the physical realm humanity inhabits. Vladimir Dikarev’s process is inspired by ancient Chinese artists who allow the tools to lead the hands. Most of Dikarev’s works depict complex, neo-surrealist scenes comprised of fluidity and chaos. Dikarev states: “My study of philosophy, literature, poetry, and religion has informed my painting and drawings, particularly when these ways of understanding the world preserve and enhance what is most human about us.” Dikarev shares messages using a collage of metaphors and symbolism in which each piece acts as a visual story.

The pieces brought forth by the hands of these two gifted artists are able to touch the soul. Concordia is blessed to host the works of Natasha Dikareva and Vladimir Dikarev whom have each dedicated their life and themselves to their art. †

Photography provided by Broke Steigauf

Captured on this page are pieces being displayed in the gallery for the Dikarev’s collection.

(Natasha Dikareva’s and Vladimir Dikarev’s collections are on display until April 10th)
Mary Burwinkel: Artist, Mentor, and More
CSP’s Ceramics TA Makes Learning Fun

BY BROOKE STEIGAUF

While Mary Burwinkel is a CSP ceramic postbaccalaureate, she is also a pretzel-eating jokster with a lot of knowledge on the creative process. Her largest impact on the Concordia community has come from her position as the ceramics teaching assistant, through which she has not only helped and inspired beginning artists but also contributed to her own development.

Burwinkel says that teaching undergraduates has not only added structure to her life, but also required her to verbalize physical and technical skills in the discipline. When asked what she thinks makes “good artwork,” she said that it “sparks questions, further investigation, and turns your attention to something outside of the work.” Burwinkel has turned her classroom job description into a friend, advisor, and instructor all in one. She assists students in exploring their own artistic intentions, teaching the best approach to creating their vision, and ensuring that pieces are addressed thoroughly in concept and appearance.

Burwinkel completed her BFA in ceramics from Bradley University in Illinois and was one credit short of an art history minor. She says that she is perfectly happy without the completed minor but with the knowledge she gained from those art history classes. Through this, it is clear that Burwinkel is process-oriented, as opposed to product-oriented, which is important for any artist but especially so for a ceramic artist.

Burwinkel takes a comedic approach to viewing life as an artist. What’s the best part? “You can be dirty all the time and no one says anything about it. Your expectations for your life are so low that any success feels amazing. I’m perfectly happy without the completed minor but with the knowledge she gained from those art history classes. Through this, it is clear that Burwinkel is process-oriented, as opposed to product-oriented, which is important for any artist but especially so for a ceramic artist.

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Lastly, Burwinkel has some helpful insight for undergraduate students:
1. Every skill is worth learning
2. Take opportunities that arise and be honest with yourself about why you’re taking them. That way, you’ll get the most out of them.
4. Always eat before you work. †

Pottery and Place: Art with Common Roots

BY BROOKE STEIGAUF

SP’s art gallery welcomed a collection of ceramic artwork with a story. While all of the pieces on display are distinctly unique and different, obviously made by different minds through different hands, their artists share one inspirational place in common: a 40-acre farm in southeastern Minnesota.

In 1973, Mark Pharis purchased the property, renovated a barn into a studio, and created a kiln in which to finish his work. With this project done, a new and much more expansive one unfolded unexpectedly. Following Mark Pharis, artists Linda Sikora and Matt Metz began to create their work there, inviting other artists to help care for the feral cat family and use the studio too. Thus, for various extents over the next thirty-three years, artists Janice Knipe, Tim Crane, Karen Newgard, Autumn Cipla, Andy Brayman, Sanam Emami, Autumn Cipala, Rob Sutherland, and Chuck Aydlett used the setting for both artistic and personal growth.

According to art critic and curator of the show Janet Koplos, Chuck Aydlett in particular visited the farm because of a feeling that his work was “missing something.” Each of these artists, whether consciously lacking something or not, found creative support, inspiration, mentorship, and soul-feeding conversation through the experience.

Inadvertently, by the pure selflessness of Sikora and Metz, an informal artist residency was spawned. Artists endured periods of isolation counteracted by times of deep and meaningful connection, and most importantly, they gained a unique learning experience to further their own personal style and life-story.

Koplos said that what she views as the most endearing aspect of the story is the generosity that sparked the farm’s doors to become open and the community that was created so casually by their genuine love and support. She explained that ceramics, by nature of the discipline, is a more communal interest than other artistic media. There is less competition, a higher likelihood of sharing space and equipment, and a lot of time required to complete work (often spent simultaneously talking to others).

Since the farm was sold in 2006, the works of art and artists themselves serve as the main records of its legacy. While every work of art has an imbedded narrative, a special sense of awe and curiosity is kindled while standing in a gallery with the knowledge that a common experience is underlying each distinct appearance. †

Photography provided by Brooke Steigauf


To the left: Plate by Sanam Emami

Above: Chuck Aydlett’s Burning Desire, 2014
BY PAUL HILLMER, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Aaron Sorkin is one of America’s most highly regarded scriptwriters. His works include the play (and subsequent film) “A Few Good Men,” the movies “The American President” and “The Social Network,” and TV shows “The West Wing,” and “The Newsroom.” Known for his snappy, dialog-heavy scenes peppered with witty and cerebral exchanges, Sorkin has channeled his considerable talents toward slower-moving though no less intense material: Harper Lee’s classic novel, To Kill a Mockingbird.

For the uninitiated, the centerpiece of Lee’s book, set in a small Alabama town in 1934, is a trial in which African American Tom Robinson is accused of raping Mayella Ewell. In reality, Mayella, a victim of crushing poverty and her father Bob’s physical and sexual abuse, turns to Tom for affection. When Bob discovers her embracing and kissing Tom, he beats his daughter and forces her to falsely accuse Tom.

There has been significant controversy surrounding this play. Sorkin was forced to reverse some of his changes by Harper Lee’s estate. Under threat of a lawsuit, producer Scott Rudin forced local, community, and student productions employing an adaptation that been around for decades, to shut down if they were in twenty-five miles of “a decent-sized town.” Sorkin retained use of the N-word, but not a revered scene in which the Reverend of the town’s African American church instructs Atticus’s daughter Scout to rise, along with all the black observers in the balcony, out of respect for her father and his quixotic efforts. (This version features neither the minister nor a balcony.)

While the narrative thread of Lee’s novel remains intact, Sorkin updates and enlivens several key characters, breaking the original story out of its rigid mid-20th Century racial milieu. Atticus is no longer a faultless paragon of virtue and his children, especially son Jem, no longer trusting and uncritical. As flawlessly depicted by actor Jeff Daniels, he is a victim of his obsessive courtesy, even to Maycomb’s most hateful and abusive citizens. He—and more so Tom—are undone by his naive faith in his white neighbors’ sense of fair play and blind justice. In fact, in this version, Atticus persuades Tom to renege on a plea deal sending him to prison for 18 years, since he is convinced Tom will be found innocent.

When Bob Ewell comes Atticus’ home to gloat after Tom’s sentencing and ultimately assaults him, Atticus’ long-intact equanimity finally fractures. Twisting Ewell’s arm behind his back, he essentially says, “Before I break your arm, you incestuous SOB, let me make it abundantly clear that I am your superior” (In some way this supplants the moment from the book/movie in which the children suddenly learn their father is the best rifleman the county. He may be placid, even meek, but deep down Atticus Finch is a badass.) Only Jem’s outcry as he emerges from the house breaks his father out of his spell, and Ewell is released, humbled but unharmed. Even then, Atticus tries to contextualize Ewell’s behavior for his son. To Ewell, the Civil War was yesterday; he still lives with the humiliation of that defeat. Jem has none of it. “If you had lived during that war,” he asks his father, “which side would you have fought on?”

Atticus replies, “I would have hid under the bed.” After a long pause, he adds, “I’m just joking.” Jem replies, “Are you sure?” (In a later scene, Jem confides that if he could take back one moment of his life, it would be when he called his father a coward.)

Sorkin’s Calpurnia (Atticus’ longtime housekeeper) is far more frank and unflinching than Lee’s. When Atticus assures her that he can get Bob Ewell out of the courtroom before he cross-examines Mayella, she asks, “Are you sure?” She is less than impressed with his answer. When Atticus learns Tom was shot five times in the head and back while trying to climb the prison fence, she asks how a man with only one good arm could even think about trying to climb a fence—a reminder that African American distrust in law enforcement long predates the Fred Hampton shooting or “Black Lives Matter.” And she has no room for Atticus’ insistence that his neighbors, including the jury, are good people at heart. They entered the courtroom as monsters, she exhales, and left as murderers. Atticus’ classic line that you can’t judge a man until you get inside his skin and crawl around in it is repeated throughout this production and met with an increasing level of derision. Some people—or at least their ideas, Sorkin suggests—simply aren’t worth our time.

The jury’s miscarriage of justice is abetted by Tom’s admission that he repeatedly helped Mayella with chores because “I felt sorry for her.” In the book/movie, this admission is catastrophic, given most white citizen’s reflexive embrace of white supremacy, but also accidental. In the play, Tom confesses this to Atticus during their first meeting. Atticus first replies yes, just be honest and say exactly that. A split second later: No. You can’t say that. Don’t ever say that. So Tom’s comment in court is not an honest miscalculation, but a result of merciless and unethical badgering from the prosecutor, an out-and-out racist stripped of all but the most superficial veneer of Southern gentility. As a result, Atticus’ final admonition to the jury is strikingly different from the book/play.

“We practiced that question for six weeks,” he confesses. But is a jury, no matter how mired in the tropes of the Confederacy, really going to convict a man clearly incapable of committing the crime while the real culprit sits before them? Sadly, we all know the answer before Atticus does. But upon seeing his error, there is no room for an Oedipal catharsis. Atticus will stay in Maycomb, Alabama and will ultimately lose his place in the political life of the state, living with his guilt and perhaps, after all, actually becoming the man who disappointed millions in Go Set a Watchman. But this is not the trajectory suggested by Sorkin’s narrative. Rather, it is that even in the midst of defeat, Atticus and other white citizens in Maycomb like Judge Taylor, Sherriff Tate, the “town drunk,” and yes, Boo Radley, will continue to fight the good fight, to rise to the challenge that still lies before this country and every community in it.

The play begins with Scout asking her brother and their friend Dill how Bob Ewell could have fallen on his knife and died. (Sorry, you’ll have to watch the movie or read the book if you’re currently confused.) When she finally puts the pieces together at the end, she realizes what good people are sometimes forced to do when confronted with raw hatred, and what must be done to protect those caught in the crossfire. When Scout utters the last line of the play—“All Rise”—she is not returning us to the courtroom but instead calling all of us to summon our better angels and rise up to do the hard work of maintaining our all-too-fragile civil society.
March 2019 Horoscopes

BY CATIE NELSON

Aries | March-21-April 19
When you try something new this month try doing something you would not normally do. Be adventurous.

Taurus | April 20-May 20
Taking advantage of things this month, even if they are small, may add up in the end and lead to something miraculous.

Gemini | May 21-June 20
When you think you want to be like a rock and stay in one place, try being like a cloud and flow along the breeze of life and beyond your comfort zone.

Cancer | June 21-July 22
Just when you think your luck has run out, you find a four-leaf clover. Have confidence not only in yourself but also in luck.

Leo | July 23-August 22
When life gives you lemons, make lemonade. Or plant the seeds and grow a tree, the environment needs people like you.

Virgo | August 23-September 22
You don't need to have talent to be good at anything you do. Believing in yourself and not giving up can be more powerful than natural ability. Practice makes perfect.

Libra | September 23-October 22
This month it’s important to think ahead but don’t forget to enjoy the moment you are in as well. Balance is important.

Scorpio | October 23-November 21
This month, dream big. Break barriers and be adventurous! Make yourself go beyond the limits of your life because that’s when you will grow.

Sagittarius | November 22-December 21
Understanding there are no shortcuts in life is a part of growing up. Try hard and don’t take the easy way out; it’s more rewarding to give it your all and succeed in the end.

Capricorn | December 22-January 19
Emotions are a part of us because they make us aware of ourselves and understand our limitations. They are more often a strength than a weakness.

Aquarius | January 20-February 18
Learning to swim starts with overcoming the fear of doing something new. Having the courage to give it a shot, even if you don't succeed at first, will help you learn more about yourself.

Pisces | February 19-March 20
Growth starts with the mind’s desire to do so, sparking action. Humans naturally want to improve and grow even if it requires effort and resilience.
March Crossword & March Wordsearch
by Alexandria Gosen

Across
3. This stone's chemical formula is $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_6$
4. This month's sun sign
6. Luck o' the...
7. Days in the month
9. Celebration in Louisiana
10. The March madness sport
11. He was assassinated on March 15
12. The Roman God March was named after

Down
1. You might be as mad as this animal this March
2. Many people wear this color this time of year
5. Irish Holiday
6. March 15
8. This equinox marks the moment the Sun crosses the celestial equator

ALADDIN
CINDERELLA
DUMBO
MALEFICENT
MARYPOPPINS
MULAN
PETESDRAGON
THEJUNGLEBOOK
THELIONKING
THEPARENTTRAP
ARTS & VARIETY

A Little Spring Sprinkle

BY MADISON BUCHANAN