ARA Committee to Examine Alternative Meal Program

by Jacque Gharib

John Goetz, Student Senate Vice President of Student Relations, is chairing an ARA Food Committee which is assessing Concordia's current 3 meal per day food plan.

According to committee member, Chris Roth, students have expressed dissatisfaction with the program. Chief among student complaints is the program's inflexibility. The program requires students to pay for three meals each day even though many of the 400 regular ARA diners are unable to take all three meals on campus due to scheduling conflicts such as jobs.

Dan Kleber, Director of Food Service, claims that ARA serves over 300 college campuses and that there are a multitude of meal programs available to CSP. He added that he is anxious to meet with the student representatives and CSP administration to devise a multi-option program which would meet the needs of all who utilize ARA food service.

According to Goetz and Roth, ARA has never stood in the way of developing alternative programs here at CSP. Rather, Concordia's past presidents were unwilling to consider program changes. Former President Alan Harre felt that changes were unnecessary and interim President Herman Wentzel tabled the issue, feeling that it was something for the incoming president to tackle.

Concordia's current chief administrator, President Johnson, is very sympathetic to the concerns expressed by students and is himself, ready to facilitate change.

continued on page 2

CSAL Grows As Dimension of CSP

by Shelley Novotny

At 8:00 on Saturday morning most of us are still in bed or at the best, watching cartoons. At least eleven people are up and going around Concordia; the fact is, they are even in class. CSAL (Concordia School of Adult Learning) class #45 is studying multicultural dimensions.

Since the fall of 1985, Concordia has had another dimension, CSAL. Jean Rock said that when she came to Concordia in 1985, there were 43 students in five classes and now 800 students have passed through CSAL.

So, what is Concordia School of Adult Learning all about? CSAL Coordinator Dr. Elizabeth Bruch said, "With changing demographics of students there are more and more older students; with CSAL, Concordia is trying to respond to the declining enrollment of traditional students." The students of CSAL start together in a class and stay together through fifteen months of learning. This is called the cohort mode and it can help with learning retention. The students are required to come in with at least 90 credit hours and as in "regular" colleges, are able to test out of certain classes if they wish. CSAL offers one major, a B.A. in Organizational Management and Communication. "We hope we can bring other programs in as we try to respond to the needs of the adult learner," said Bruch.

As for the students, they are generally older than eighteen and are already working. Most have 40 hour a week jobs and go to school besides. When considering the trials of classes, most CSAL students are similar to traditional students. One woman who is a secretary at IBM said, "Most of us are older and coming back to school, but we get the same satisfaction out of good grades as everyone else." Another woman stated that in the way that CSAL is set up they (the students) get to know each other really well.

Dr. Bruch stated that there are a wide variety of students in CSAL. In visiting Saturday's class, I found salespeople, secretaries and even one that travels internationally for a major company in the Twin Cities. "We are also trying to provide a ministry to these people as we work to generate revenue for CSP. We are part of the college," said Bruch.

The instructors of the CSAL classes come partly from Concordia, while the rest come from the Twin Cities area. They are required to have a minimum degree of a masters. Although most may not notice, CSAL students are involved in Concordia life other than classes. For instance, I saw three students who I met on Saturday morning at the Christmas Concert on Sunday.

In the words of one CSAL student, "The concert was wonderful, this is part of the reason why I enjoy going to school."

Minn. Private College Enrollment Posts 6th Annual Increase

From Minnesota Private College Council

Enrollment at 16 Minnesota private college liberal arts colleges increased this fall for the sixth consecutive year.

A total of 36,369 full-time equivalent (FTE) students began classes this fall compared to 35,313 students in 1988 -- an increase of 21%. This marks a 20% increase for the decade and the fifth straight year in which the State's private colleges have posted record enrollments.

The colleges confer roughly one-third of Minnesota's bachelor's degree's. Private college enrollment increases run counter to state and national declines in the number of high school students. "Despite a shrinking pool of traditional-age students, more and more students perceive greater value in the high quality of teaching at Minnesota's private colleges," said David B. Laird Jr., president of the Minnesota Private College Council. "Nationally we are seeing a resurgence of interest in the liberal arts as better preparation for resurgence of interest in the liberal arts as better preparation for participation in a changing global economy. Minnesota's private liberal arts colleges are recognized as among the best in the country -- our enrollment and the capability of our students bear this out."

The number of students transferring to Minnesota's private college also set a record. A total of 2,683 transfer students entered this fall compared to 2,357 in 1986. For those students reporting their previous institutions, 85% came from schools outside the Minnesota private college system.
News Briefs...

--- The 1989 Aries! Shiné! Christmas Concert was held in Buetow Auditorium this past Sunday, December 10. Both of the shows (held at 3:30 and 7pm) were big successes. Jubilate,Christus Chorus, Pinkham Brass, Cross Current Dance Company, an off-campus dance group, and an ensemble from the Concert Band performed to a audience in excess of 1,100 people.

--- Many of you may have noticed the construction this past week in the Union basement. Two new walls blocking the circular hallway to close in the new Student Senate offices. The room that was formally the Senate Exec Office was enlarged to make a new Senate meeting room and entry hallway. The glassed in Bulk Mail Room is scheduled to be transformed into the new Senate Exec office and computer room.

--- The Women's Basketball team recently defeated Northland College 67-66. Denise Varland scored 20 points during the game.

--- The Men's Basketball record is 4-3. They defeated St. Paul Bible College last weekend. They will be participating in a Christmas break tournament in Portland, Oregon December 24-31.

--- In a recent decision, Concordia College-Seward, Nebraska recently voted to change their name to Concordia University at Seward following suit with other colleges who have recently made such a name change. Although such a change does not really mean an overhaul of the school, but adds a certain sense of prestige.

--- CSP's chapter of Amnesty International held a forum December 9th commemorating the 40th Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Diane Ruhrkist of the Latin American Human Rights Advocacy Center addressed the group on the "Salvadoran Crisis." The following day a vigil was held in support of eight hunger strikers fasting in St. Paul's Cathedral since Thanksgiving Day. More than 3,000 people turned out in solidarity with those who were in their fifteenth day of a water-only fast in protest of U.S. military aid to the war-torn nation of El Salvador.

--- Tom Foley (D-WA), joined Minnesota Governor Rudy Perpich, and Archbishop Beach of the St. Paul archdiocese in calling for the hunger strikers to end their fast. The following morning a hastily called press conference was called to announce that the hunger strikers were indeed ending their fast. During her final good-byes to local supporters, hunger striker Valery Stapperson, a Minneapolis nurse, vowed to speak to Concordia students concerning her reasons for joining the fast. Look for more details after winter recess or contact a CSP member of Amnesty International.

--- The Comet Cross Country teams wrapped up their seasons in November. The week after their Conference meet in Duluth, the men and women runners drove out to Rochester Hills, Michigan for the NSCAA national meet. Every team member ran a personal best, despite the below freezing temperatures. Heidi Wolfram ran a time of 20:55, a school record, and she came in sixth overall, making her an All-American.

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Christmas Presence

by Timothy Bantum

The Holiday Season seems to bring a certain lively energy to everyone. We all want to get out and go shopping, or hang up bright lights, or listen to those special songs that are back in style this time each year. Live performances of the fine arts seem to be in great abundance. Handel's Messiah is played and accompanied by numerous orchestras and every stage seems to be filled by an old man mumbling "humbug... Baa Humbug."

However, tucked back in a corner of St. Anthony Main, in Minneapolis, I was treated to a special presentation this year. Christmas Presence was performed by the Refreshment Committee, a group of actors who called the Mainstage Theatre home.

Christmas Presence is made of three one act shows, each totally independent of the other except for their Christmas theme. The first play was a lively adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic A Christmas Carol with a new twist. Each ghost was performed by three actors simultaneously. This doesn't sound like it would work, but it did! The vocal harmonies added a great effect. Special lighting helped create the appropriate mood, whether it was gloomy...very...cemetery.

Following a brief intermission, came part two of Christmas Presence. This play was entitled The Innkeeper and was based on a piece of poetry written by a Twin Cities chergyman. The story is a fictitious account of Jesus returning to Bethlehem. He comes to repay the innkeeper who allowed his parents to use the stable thirty-three years before, on the night of his birth. The account is quite moving and does a great job of pointing out the only reason Christ was born in the first place...he had to die.

After a final short break, the actors completed the program with their rendition of A Dox-Way Nativity. Taking their lyrics directly from the first several chapters of Luke, they sang the story of Christ's coming and the events that surrounded his birth. The tempo, beat, and mood were constantly changing, depending on the part of the story being told. A highlight of this display was the musical tracing of Jesus' ancestors through Mary all the way to Adam. If you thought geneologies were tough to read, try singing them.

Christmas Presence was a refreshing look at the real meaning of this season. Judging by the fact that all seventeen public performances were sold out, I'd say quite a few others agree with me. A flyer from the show described it as "A New Christmas Tradition." If you missed it this time, be sure and try to get tickets early next year. I have a feeling a lot of people are going to take their advice.

Now Playing...

by Dirk Mattson

Here's your key:

$$$$ Worth the price
$$$$ Entertaining but not urgent
$$$$ Saturday matinee material
$$$ If you really want to $ Wait for the video

Christmas Presence is made of an all-star cast of actresses involved in a story which has been done before but now includes more players. Sally Field, Shirley MacLaine, Olympia Dukakis, Dolly Parton, Julia Roberts, and Daryl Hannah all play women in a small Louisiana town who befriend each other through the difficulties of life, particularly the problem of diabetes for Sally Field's daughter Shelby (Roberts). The ways in which these women look at life work together to comfort Fields and her attempt to deal with outcome of Shelby's disease. While the film has been labeled by some critics as a copy of Terms of Endearment, it differs from it greatly by the sheer variety of interpretations of the crisis as given to us by the different characters. The actresses presented the women so simply as to Mary all the way to Adam. If you thought geneologies were tough to read, try singing them.

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Concordia Speaks

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS ONE OF THE MAJOR CRICES FACING THE TWIN CITIES TODAY AND WHY?

Chris Newman: The traffic. It gives me a lot of stress on my way to student teaching in the morning. The construction seems endless.

Sarah Little: The inner city children - many times they have no where to go and are left out on their own, and this is often times out on the streets.

Eric Harre: Drugs - they are a growing problem, especially in the Midcity area.

Rob Krueger: There are problems such as homelessness and drug and alcohol addictions and so on but, all and all, compared with other metropolitan area the Twin Cities seem to have a better handle on these problems.

Chad Giesko: People are too materialistic. The only thing they care about is material goods and not about other people.
Letters to the Editor

From The Ex-Editor

by J.D. Geets

I usually leave the preaching up to my old man. Not only does he get his 15 or so minutes every Sunday, but I've gotten it for years. Just this Thanksgiving vacation he blamed me for (my, his, actually) car engine blowing up on my way home. He said I drove too fast. Also, coming home from our university, what would happen if I drove too fast? He said I drove too fast. We don't get along very well, actually. But, for fear of sounding too much like my pop: For God's sake drive safely over the holidays. Jeff Schroeder was two years older than me. He was still in my clique, and I watched movies with him many times with the gang. Jeff is the principle reason why I like funk music. He was cool, he died (therefore) I liked him. He was my sophomore homecoming king, I think, and he was the best dressed of his class. Notably that, "Schrades" was on the cross-country team that I went to the State meet with. I have a State medal in my room because before the race we said, "Let's do this for Schrades." 80 percent of my "new" clothes were once his. Every time he got new clothes, he would sell them to people at a cheap price because we aren't rich. Jeff's winter coat keeps me warm. Jeff was going to school in California. His dad was driving him home from a basketball camp or something and speeding. The car hit a slippery spot, flew into something, and smashed into something else. Jeff was brain dead. His parents had to decide whether to keep him on the machines or use his organs for transplants. Now he's dead. Who doesn't speed? I know I did.

Earth Day '90 Plans Underway

April 22, 1989 was an historical day in the environmental movement. There had been some concerns about a few environmental issues expressed prior to that, notably Rachel Carson's Spring in 1962, But basically, there was little knowledge of environmental issues on the part of "the masses." As a matter of fact, few people used the noun "environment" or the adjective "environmental" in those days. That April day in 1970 was called Earth Day. It was a day set aside to raise the awareness level of all citizens concerning the seriousness of a variety of environmental problems. A majority of the programs that day were conducted on college campuses and at high schools, plus a few elementary schools. Concordia was a full participant in that first Earth Day, which also was referred to as a "National Environmental Teach-In." The program at CSP ran from 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. in the LMC with about 500 students, faculty, and a few guests in attendance for the entire day. All classes were canceled for this event. Because 1990 will mark the 20th anniversary of that first Earth Day, a nationwide effort is now underway to celebrate the anniversary and remind everyone that the struggle to correct environmental problems is not over. Plans are being developed for Concordia's participation in EARTH DAY 20. Concordia's committee, chaired by Dr. Robert Holts, includes: Dr. Jeff Burkart, Professor Barb Schoenbeck, Dan Asmus, Tammy Fidler, Mary Grukle, Tracy Harrell, Joanne Oestreich, Michael Ruhnke, Missy Schirm, and Missy Schultz. Rather than a one-day event, the committee is working on a variety of activities which will increase our awareness of environmental issues, provide factual information, and encourage everyone's participation in working for a better environment for all living things. To underscore the importance of their effort, the committee has chosen EVERYDAY IS EARTH DAY as its theme. In addition, Michael Ruhnke has suggested a logo using the word (letters) EARTH to stand for Environmental Awareness. Renewing the Hope. Campus activities will include a January-April film and video festival, open speakers, and an emphasis on recycling. The major goal of the committee will be to establish an endowed Environmental Science Scholarship for CSP environmental science majors. Anyone interested in joining the EARTH DAY Committee or working on select projects, should contact Dr. Robert Holts.

Letters to the Editor

To the editor of the Sword:

Eastcliff...Luther Darville...a new logo...compensated editorial...Images that boil one's fast. Also, coming home from our university. What would happen if any more of his cars until I quit my way home. He said I drove too fast. We don't get along very well, actually. But, for fear of sounding too much like my pop: For God's sake drive safely over the holidays. Jeff Schroeder was two years older than me. He was still in my clique, and I watched movies with him many times with the gang. Jeff is the principle reason why I like funk music. He was cool, he died (therefore) I liked him. He was my sophomore homecoming king, I think, and he was the best dressed of his class. Notably that, "Schrades" was on the cross-country team that I went to the State meet with. I have a State medal in my room because before the race we said, "Let's do this for Schrades." 80 percent of my "new" clothes were once his. Every time he got new clothes, he would sell them to people at a cheap price because we aren't rich. Jeff's winter coat keeps me warm. Jeff was going to school in California. His dad was driving him home from a basketball camp or something and speeding. The car hit a slippery spot, flew into something, and smashed into something else. Jeff was brain dead. His parents had to decide whether to keep him on the machines or use his organs for transplants. Now he's dead. Who doesn't speed? I know I did.

Ironically contributing involuntarily to the demise of private colleges -- including our own beloved institution!

Tim Utter

Dear Editor,

Lately, Concordia has been experiencing a rash of thefts. These thefts include the "borrowing" of the Walther lounge furniture, mislabeled library materials, stealing books and book bags/backpacks, and the vanishing photographs from the Student Senate bulletin board. Let's face it folks, this theft has become sickening! Why should other students pay for the CRIMES of a few individuals? To the victims of these thefts, I sympathize with you. To the THIEVES on this campus, find something constructive to do with your time!

Sincerely,

Jacqui Rimer