The GOP Regains Control After 40 Years

by Theresa Seto

Election Day, Tuesday, November 9, 1994, marked a sizable sweep for the Republicans. The GOP gained eight seats in the United States Senate, altering a 55-45 Democratic majority to a 55-45 Republican majority. In the U.S. House of Representatives, the GOP party gained 51 seats, which now puts the GOP at 232 members to 204 Democratic seats.

The final results for the Minnesota election are as follows: Independent Republican endorsed incumbent, Arne Carlson won the gubernatorial election against DFL endorsed John Marty. The final vote total, according to the November 10, 1994 edition of the St. Paul Pioneer Press, showed Carlson at 1.1 million votes and Marty at fewer than 600,000 votes.

The Minnesota Senate seat was taken by Independent Republican Rod Grams, who beat his opponent, Ann Wynia, by 64% - 36% margin. Seats for the U.S. congress were bipartisan by district: First district, IR Gil Gutknecht over DFL John C. Hottinger; Second district, Republican endorsed John Marty.

The Concordia University System Underway

by Amy MacFee

What? Concordia is becoming a university? Well, not exactly. Concordia St Paul is joining an enhanced quality of education for students, the efficient allocation of resources and distinctive inter-relational arrangements. Concurrently, the distinguishing character, strength and autonomy of each institution will be affirmed.

The Concordia University System is being developed in response to growing American Education concern. A task force has been set up to develop a system that "builds national identity, distinguishing character, strength and autonomy of each institution will be affirmed." This group is concerned with are as follows: How do you live in harmony and appreciation of all students on campus, and how does this affect the school academically? Through this committee's efforts, they hope to promote this harmony through cooperation while protecting the autonomy of each school," says Hoist.

The fourteen teams have been organized to investigate one specific part of the system and create a program that makes their goal a reality. The first team is concerned with the Affective Transmission of Lutheran Values. The second team is tackling the issue of Cultural Diversity, with President Hoist as the captain. He says, "The issue is common in its nature, but its application on each campus will differ." He wants the different cultures to be represented throughout different classes such as in literature classes. He sees this program as a "confirmation of what we've already done here at CSP." But there are other schools in this system, such as that in Austin TX, for example, which do not have as many programs set up to meet the multiculti- nal needs. CUSP is seen as a model in this area.

The third team deals with the Relationship of Concordia University To The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. This committee zeroes in on the inter-relational arrangements. Concurrently, the Lutheran Church -Missouri Synod as they engage in their cultural diversity efforts. The questions that this group is concerned with are as follows: How do you live in harmony and appreciation of all students on campus, and how does this affect the school academically? Through this committee's efforts, they hope to promote this harmony through cooperation while protecting the autonomy of each school," says Hoist.

Mike Flynn explained that there are 14 teams that are currently working on the initiatives and determining how to carry out the goals that have been established. Each of these teams consists of members from several of the ten schools involved and each is headed by a captain. Dr. Loma Meyer states that, "Concordia St. Paul has fine representation in these teams."

Jolly Old St. Nick-- Have you been naughty or nice???
DPF David Mingus over independent Stan Bentez and El Gary B. Bevier; Third district, incumbent LR Jan Ramstad; Fourth district, incumbent DFL Bruce C. Vento; Fifth district, incumbent DFL Martin Savel; Sixth district, DFL William P. Auditor over IR Ted Judje; Seventh district, incumbent DFL Collin Peterson; Eighth district, incumbent DFL James L Ostber. Other candidates who were elected include Lieutenant Governor, Jonson Benson; Secretary of State for his sixth term, Joan Gowen; and Attorney General for his fourth term, Hubert H. Humphrey III.

A side note that also came up on the ballots during election regarded the OffTrack Betting (OTB) amendment. The question addressed was whether the Minnesota Constitution should be amended to permit off-track wagering on horse races in a manner prescribed by law, the resulting vote was "NO."

The past mid-term election was an important election for President Clinton, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the U.S. Senate, especially since the Executive Branch (President) is held by a Democrat and the Democratic Legislative Branch (Senate and House) has held control in both houses for the past 40 years. In this midterm fight between parties the House needed 46 Republican seats to gain control and the Senate needed seven seats. The Republican/GOP party had not held control of both Houses since 1954. The fight for control in 1994 between President Clinton and the President/Second party on the issues or behalf of endorsed Democratic candidates. As for Minnesota, President Clinton came to the state three times in support of DFL-endorsed Senate candidate, Ann Wynia.

In a brief interview, conducted on November 8, 1994 by the St Paul Pioneer Press, President Clinton commented on problems with the Republican Program: "Both Senate Republicans and House Republicans are promising big tax cuts for wealthy people and big spending increases and a balanced budget. Now, the only way that can be financed is if they have more taxes on everyone else. Anything else is $20%, including Social Security, they will have to cut everything else in the budget. Medicare, Student Loans, agriculture supports. It would be a devastating thing for Medicare. If they [Republicans] don't intend to balance the budget but just do what they did before in the 1980s, then you're looking at the deficit going up and the economy going down again. Only 25% of voters know that we had the biggest deficit reduction in 20 years."

Staff writer, Bill Salisbury of the November 9, 1994 edition of the St Paul Pioneer Press, commented on Carlson's victory. He win has been described as a "comforting" victory for many reasons. Carlson's win also led the state through a recession and budget cutbacks in the 1990s, which reduced the state's high-quality schools, parks, roads, welfare programs and other high quality services. As governor, his four main priorities for his second term (1995-1999) are to fight to control government spending by first making tough choices and long-term planning, especially in holding state spending to balance the budget without increasing taxes; 2) to create a "scissors education system" from early learning through apprenticeships to higher education, including high, measurable academic standards; 3) to refine a welfare system that prevents undermines work and families; 4) to change costly workers' compensation systems that drive businesses out of state.

Carlson also supports preexisting health care condition coverage, portable insurance coverage, malpractice reform, money for rural hospitals, programs to prevent teen pregnancy, parental consent for abortion, adoption, assisted suicide, a longer school year, term limits for legislators and constitutional officers, and non-partisan legislative redistricting commissions, further reform of workers compensation, tax incentives to attract businesses, economic development incentives to attract businesses, encourage investment in startups, tax incentives for communities to build housing stock, lowering tax rates on low income rental property, regional housing policies, money for violence protection, and a "3 strikes you're out" legislation.

Many incumbents for the state of Minnesota kept their seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, but as for the U.S. Senate, the seat was open during this election year. Current Independent-Republican Senator, Dave Durenberger did not run for re-election this term. He has held his seat on the Senate for the past sixteen years and will be replaced by the newly elected Independent-Republican Rod Grams at the end of the year.

GOP's platform regarding this year's election embraces a promise that he will never vote for a tax increase and will vote to cut federal spending. Grams also opposes gun control and supports anti-abortion issues. Issues that Grams endorses are divided into eight different categories. 1) Reproductive choice which supports constitutional rights for the fetus. 2) Deficit Control which supports means testing for entitlements, a balanced budget amendment, and line item veto. 3) Environment which supports stronger measures to protect wetlands, stronger water quality standards, and promotes non-nuclear energy sources. 4) Criminal Justice which supports a "3 strikes and you're out" legislation, more money for drug treatment and education, increased dollars to build prisons, and more use of electronic monitoring. 5) Social Policy which supports work requirements for welfare recipients, internate collection of child support, funding for early childhood education, more money for low income housing, and money for domestic violence shelters. 6) Foreign Policy which supports the GATT Treaty, and a tightened immigration policy. 7) Health Care which supports preexisting condition coverage, portable insurance coverage, and malpractice reform. 8) Government Management which supports Congressional term limits.

Other priorities Grams has stated upon election include cutting taxes for middle-class American families and eliminating the budget deficit. His "Families First" legislation accomplishes tax cuts for families by providing working families with an annual $500 per child tax credit ($100 million for Minnesota families), and placing a two percent cap on spending growth, which would balance the budget in eight years. These were the prominent issues addressed in this year's election. Every person has a voice when it comes to governmental issues. If you disagree or agree, you can make your voice heard by contacting your local district representative or State Senate. You voted, you have a voice, and your voice can make a difference.
University continued from page 1

expands the opportunity of different experiences. The third part is Distance Learning. This is also the responsibility of team seven. Distance learning is an interactive television program that would enable students to "draw on the strength of all campuses." For example, students could enroll in a class at CSP that would be taught at Concordia Moorhead via this telecommunication network. In effect, students could take a class through television, and still interact as if they were present in the Moorhead classroom. Dr. Meyer considers all of these areas to be "enriching experiences" for students.

Team eight is working on the development of an active program that would identify potential faculty among the students. This Faculty Identification and Development team would target students who seem to possess the characteristics of a qualified professor after receiving further education. This team would work closely with Team 12.

Team nine, captain of Team 9, along with the members of this team, are investigating ways to help students minimize the amount of time they spend at school. The Decreased Completion Time unit is trying to assist students and encourage them to make "efficient use of their time," says Flynn. With the incorporation of the Distance Learning and Visitation programs, students will be able to decrease their time in school because if a class is not offered at their "home" college, they can take it from another college.

Team ten is System Efficiency: Consolidated Services. This is where the joining of the ten schools can be an asset financially. President Hoist explains, "Hopefully by working closely together, the purchasing power will increase." For example if all the colleges united under one food plan, then the prices for food could potentially decrease.

The Electronic Library, of which Dr. Glen Offermann is a member, is the effort of Team 10. This system would connect all the libraries on one unit. The Colc network and other local information opportunities would also be available. This connection with the other libraries would be additional.

Leadership Training is the responsibility of Team 12. This relates to the Faculty Identification because it would train the persons who were identified as potential leaders.

Committee 13 is the National Council For The Identification And Cultivation Of Funding Sources. Mike Flynn is the co-captain of this team. This group is working on the development of a Raising Cabinet that would consist of individuals who either have knowledge of funding or have the money themselves. This is a key part of the University System because it holds the key to its success. Distance Learning will not be a possibility without funding for it.

Finally, Committee 14 is the Communications and National Image. This committee is the "marketing arm" that is in charge of the promotion of the program. As Mike Flynn describes it, they help to "get the mime out there." This program is exciting and will put Concordia Moorhead on the cutting edge. By fall 1995, the Simultaneous Enrollment program will have its pilot year. This experimental year will send five selling students to any of the ten colleges of their choice and CSP will accept five students. The interest in this program will be evaluated. Many of the other teams are still meeting and preparing for the final development of their efforts. This University System is a reality and will begin to be incorporated throughout all LCMS campuses. The time line calls 1994-5 the Testing and Demonstration year, and 1995 will hold the earliest stages of implementation.

Tobacco-Free Campus January 1, 1995

NEWS RELEASE

CSP becomes a tobacco-free campus effective January 1, 1995. Individually designated on-campus residential rooms and off-campus housing are exempted from this policy. All other indoor areas on campus are tobacco-free, thus creating a "Clean Indoor Air Policy." Beyond the exception listed above, tobacco is not permitted in entrances to buildings, offices, tunnels, classrooms, dining hall, student union, athletic facilities, and all other indoor areas.

The college will offer support services to those individuals wishing to discontinue a tobacco habit. Periodic seminars conducted by the College, the American Cancer Society, or the American Lung Association will be offered free of charge. The college nurse will coordinate this service.

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The Message of Christmas “From Heaven Above”

by Kristine Ranweller

Has Christmas sneaked up on you and found you unprepared for the season? This time of Advent allows us to prepare for the recognition of Christ’s birth. The Concordia Christmas Concert provides a perfect occasion for us to enter into the spirit of Christmas.

Once again, we have the opportunity to enjoy beautiful music presented by Concordia’s Christian and Jubilate choirs, handbell and string ensembles, and brass and percussion ensemble. Dr. Jeffrey Harbart will narrate the evening for us as we listen to the choir directed by Dr. David Mannis and the handbell choir led by Sue Southwick. Other faculty members involved or directing in the concert include John Roth, Dr. John Eggert, Prof. Herb, Dr. Kathryn Schenk, and Prof. Kim LaFontaine.

The theme “From Heaven Above” is based on a hymn written by Martin Luther and is structured around how Luther wrote the hymn. Luther composed the song for a Christmas program and separated it into two parts: the angel’s message and our response to it on earth. Many variations of this hymn will be performed by the different musicians.

Several other pieces will be used on the theme including “Christmas Carols” by Chapman who will be performed by Jubilate and “Natalia Nostra” by Ramirez, a mariachi-style carols that the Christmas Chorus will sing.

Another interesting piece will be “Time in Espana.” This piece incorporates an interview with Russell Schwartz who did the first unabridged space walk, a poem, and the words “Doa nobis pacem” (Grant us peace). The song will be accompanied with a dance interpretation called To Dance.

Of course there will also be familiar Christmas carols and songs that we can sing along with. This concert promises to be a celebration of music that will allow us and inspire us to prepare for the upcoming celebration of Christ’s birth.

Tickets are still available for the 7:30 concerts in the music auditorium on Saturday and Sunday evenings, December 17th and 18th. Tickets are free for students who are not on the campus meal plan may also want to get tickets for the Sunday afternoon buffet. All tickets can be obtained by calling 641-8860.

Also, Christmas Carol Vespers will be held at 7:30 in the chapel on Monday, December 19.

This will be a traditional service of lessons and carols led by Christ, Jubilate, and the handbell ensemble. This will be a wonderful send-off into the Christmas holiday.

God’s blessings and Merry Christmas.

Christmas Cinematic Greetings

by Wendy Fitzhenny & Marc Wedo

The season is upon us, and we hope you will join us in embracing the world of cinema during this holiday season. Now, everyone

Christmas films currently out. We would recommend

The Christmas Vespers service is open to all those willing from ages Kindergarten - 12, who...how can you possibly explain this plot is four sentences or less? Ok, we won’t. Here are the

Christmas film stars, Egyptian gods, the Empire State line, and Christmas season by joining your Concordia college community.

Gads & Dolls—The finale of another successful production

A & E News Release

by Tom Langemo

Concordia Entertainment Events: December 17 & 18: The Annual Concordia Fine Arts Concert will take place in the Baxter Music Auditorium. The concert is free, but there will be a free-will offering. There will be a performance each night at 7:30 p.m. and a matinee at 3:00 p.m. on the 19th—there will be a buffet between the two performances on the 18th.

December 19: The Christmas Vesper service will take place in the Graebner Memorial Chapel.

Christmas carols and songs that we can sing along with. This concert promises to be a celebration of music that will also include us and inspire us to prepare for the upcoming celebration of Christ’s birth.

From Heaven Above—A Majestic Scene at St. Paul Cathedral
Vitalogy and Christmas

by Brian Wilhorn

Over the last few weeks, anyone who cared to hear what the newest Pearl Jam album was going to sound like could simply listen to the EDGE and hear every song played over the course of a weekend. (Some people probably sat by the radio and "Hmmm ... interesting. Jelly Roll Morton? Who's even heard of him?"

It's not that I wasn't interested anymore or that you are anywhere near a performing arts establishment (knowing that you'll soon be in, assisting the tech boys, stocker at Bart's hands. I wish the following tributes, duets, remixed, and songs would or could happen: Harry Connick Jr. does Led Zeppelin, Tom Jones does Three Tall Waifs, Snoop Doggie Dogg does a Dizzy Gillespie and Michael J. Fox does a demented accordion (Huh?), "Pry, to," one minute of Vedder ranting about insects in his hair and on his body and then deciding to join them coupled with a dematerialized accordion (Huh!), "Try, to," one minute of Vedder speaking in Russian on the radio, and then suddenly, looking for someone (the studio engineer?) that compared to Zep, their first release, was disappointed. I have to admit that I was a bit disappointed by this effort, only because it is Pearl Jam. Anyone else who did this album most likely would have been fanned. The fact remains that if a person were to rate Pearl Jam's albums best to worst it would still be the same in the order they were released.

The album has some excellent songs and some that, as far as I can tell, really have no point on the album. Songs like "Spin the Black Circle," Pearl Jam's tribute to vinyl, "Tremor of the Soulful Messiah," and "Satan's Bed" are heavier sounding than anything they have ever done and are some of the great songs on the album. "Nothingman" and "Better Man" are slow, quieter songs that equal the melodic "Daughter" and "Elderly Woman Behind the Counter in a Small Town" on "VS."

But then there are the songs that make the listener simply wonder. There's "Bugs," Vedder's ranting about insects in his hair and on his body and then deciding to join them coupled with a dematerialized accordion (Huh!), "Try, to," one minute of Vedder speaking in Russian on the radio, and then suddenly, looking for someone (the studio engineer?) that compared to Zep, their first release, was disappointed. I have to admit that I was a bit disappointed by this effort, only because it is Pearl Jam. Anyone else who did this album most likely would have been fanned. The fact remains that if a person were to rate Pearl Jam's albums best to worst it would still be the same in the order they were released.

For our special Christmas issue, I have been asked to include a Christmas wish list. With help from Tim Dahlé, Donavon Riley, and Chad Whitt, here is my list of highlights from the past 12 months. I do not know what else to say in the shrinking space. It is not that I wasn't interested anymore or that you are anywhere near a performing arts establishment (knowing that you'll soon be in, assisting the tech boys, stocker at Bart's hands. I wish the following tributes, duets, remixed, and songs would or could happen: Harry Connick Jr. does Led Zeppelin, Tom Jones does Three Tall Waifs, Snoop Doggie Dogg does a Dizzy Gillespie and Michael J. Fox does a demented accordion (Huh?), "Pry, to," one minute of Vedder ranting about insects in his hair and on his body and then deciding to join them coupled with a dematerialized accordion (Huh!), "Try, to," one minute of Vedder speaking in Russian on the radio, and then suddenly, looking for someone (the studio engineer?) that compared to Zep, their first release, was disappointed. I have to admit that I was a bit disappointed by this effort, only because it is Pearl Jam. Anyone else who did this album most likely would have been fanned. The fact remains that if a person were to rate Pearl Jam's albums best to worst it would still be the same in the order they were released.

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Unfortunately, I do not have enough space to mention every performer for this show, because—All-even those with non-speaking rules—have outstanding credential.

So who was Jelly Roll Morton, anyway? Well, he was the best of the old-time hillbilly characters. He was the first person to make music that would appeal to non-musicians. He was known around the world. However, even though he was considered one of the greatest composers of all time, he was never recognized for his work. He was known for his work with Greg and Sammy Davis, Jr., and he is considered one of the greatest performers in the history of music. He was a fabulous performance in dance, costume, and for this show, because—All-even those with non-speaking rules—have outstanding credential.

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Variety

Concordia Catches the Spirit of Christmas
by Heather Gifford

Those of us who live away from our homes and families tend to feel the loneliest around Christmas time. Although most college students do get home for the holiday itself, we still miss the entire advent season of preparation. However, after taking a look around our campus, I have seen that the Concordia community does a good job of trying to provide many opportunities to "catch the Christmas Spirit."

Anyone who walks through or past any of the on-campus housing will see masses of lights and decorations adorning the windows and doors. Also, nearly every floor of the dormitories has planned some sort of gathering to celebrate the birth of our Lord, some going as far as planning open houses for all of the Concordia community.

In addition to decorations in dorms, there are several Christmas and Advent programs taking place on our campus. Not only are the various music programs occurring, but the chapel also provides weekly Wednesday Advent services and daily chapel services. Also, since it is often better to give than receive, one can participate in Concordia's Shoebox Project, donating personal items to be given to the economically deprived.

All of these things brighten the family atmosphere here at Concordia, which helps to promote the Christmas spirit as well. I hope that all students will take advantage of these opportunities in the few remaining days before break. Perhaps we should all take time to attend a service in the beautifully decorated chapel, or donate to a worthy cause. With the help of our own college community, and a "Christmas with Christ" as our focus, we will enhance both the time spent here with friends and at home with family all the more.

Project Shoebox Underway at CSP

News Release

If you feel that the old cliché "be better to give than to receive" rings true, this is an opportunity for you. Project Shoebox is a service that attempts to collect necessary personal items to be put into shoeboxes and wrapped like gifts for the elderly, homeless, and otherwise economically disadvantaged. Many of these people cannot afford to purchase such items for themselves, as the cost of living in Minnesota is high.

If you wish to make the life of someone a little brighter or you just enjoy giving, please leave any donations on Tier One of the Student Union at the designated table. If you have any questions, please contact the orange/red flyers in the dining hall or call Chris Conner at X356.

The ILK of Newt

What Newt really said was that he needs to continue the status quo, get government off of the backs of a few select industries, (defined by the level of their campaign contributions), increase his own personal power, get himself on the news almost daily, and allow himself just to tear up those pesky speeding tickets.

Let's take a look at what school prayer would actually be like. The first thing we need to do is establish just exactly what the prayer will be. Will it be the Lord's Prayer? Will it be a Christian prayer?

I saw a guy on Ted Koppel who said that the local community will resolve the contents of the prayer. I also saw Pat Robertson say that, of course, the prayer will be a Christmas prayer. By his logic this would be the only kind of prayer that would work, since God is a Christian. So sorry to all those Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Latvians, and (dare I say it?) Susan worshipers. In this country at least, you are free to worship the little "g" god of your choice, but it has been decided that if you want to talk to the Big "G" God, then you have to become a Christian. Can I just imagine all those poor school administrators, sweating over the prayer, not wanting to offend anyone. It will probably end up something like this..."God, please don't let anyone get so upset over this prayer that they will actually show up at a school board meeting and have me fired, and please Heavenly Father, make those ACT scores go up so that folks will allow me and the rest of the stuff a small raise next year. And please, if you are willing, don't let any homosexual, Nazi, anti-fur, or pro-choice groups demand that they be able to buy all space in the school paper or that they demand having a float in the homecoming parade. Amen"

Next and his ilk have a certain amount of responsibility. But the first function of power is to do whatever it takes to keep it. There is no way that the voices would let Newt and his ilk be power in all of the sudden we were paying three to four dollars for a gallon of gas, or $7.48 (the real total cost according to the GAO)...this includes the costs the government takes on for subsidies and health costs) for a pack of smokes. Well let me tell you this, I smoke and I drive my car, and that's a lot of money. But I truly believe that if that is what it costs, then that is what I should pay. I think of it as the price of reality.

School prayer. What do Newt and his ilk think this will solve? Who are these people? Speaking of jerks, here is a recipe for jerked chicken wings.

Chicken Wings
1 Medium Onion
1/2 C Chopped Scallions
1 Fresh Ground Ginger
1/4 C Cider Vinegar
1/2 C Soy Sauce
1/4 C Cider Oil
2 Tbsp Lemon Juice
2 Tbsp Sugar
1 Tbsp Jerk Seasoning
1/2 Tbsp Ground Cinnamon
1/2 Tbsp Ground Allspice
1/2 Tbsp Ground Nutmeg
1/4 C Brown Sugar
1/4 C Lemon Juice

Cut off the wing tips and discard. Separate and cut the rest in half at the joint.

Combine the next 13 ingredients, except the 1/4 C of the soy sauce, in a food processor until a smooth paste is formed.

Take 1/2 C of the paste and mix with the honey, lemon juice and the rest of the soy sauce to create the marinade. You may store the remaining paste in the fridge for up to 1 month. Dive the marinade in half. Use the first half to marinade immediately and save the other half for later use. Marinade overnight. Drain the chicken and discard the marinade. Preheat the oven at 375 degrees and bake the wings on a sheet pan for 30 minutes or until well browned. Remove from the oven and refrigerate for at least 2 hours, but for as long as 5 days. Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Coat the wings with the remainder of the marinade and bake on a sheet pan for 5 minutes or until well browned. Serve with celery sticks and house dressing.

Eat early. Eat often.

Roomies

Roomies are a four-member band consisting of Josiah Baer, John van der Meulen, William Grinnell, and myself. Josiah Baer and I formed the group in the fall of 1993. We began writing, recording and performing original music. We perform at a variety of events, such as on-campus, at local bars, and at private parties. We have recently released our first studio album, "What We Left Behind." If you enjoy rock, indie, or alternative music, you will enjoy our music.

Our music is a blend of rock, indie, and alternative. We are influenced by a variety of artists, such as Radiohead, pavement, and the strokes. Our songs are typically about personal experiences and emotions. We aim to create a connection with our listeners by sharing our stories and emotions through our music.

We are currently booking gigs and looking for new opportunities to perform. If you or someone you know is interested in seeing us perform, please contact us at our email address: roomiesband@gmail.com. We appreciate your support and look forward to connecting with you.

We hope you enjoy our music and look forward to performing for you soon!
Concordia Speaks

The Big Question
by Jason Lucey

When I was young, I enjoyed Mother Goose and other childhood stories. The imagination and imagery of a less-fancied age. I revered the fact that I would receive money for my pains if I placed my hard, hot hands under my pillow. I even loved knowing that a giant, hopping lemming bounded into my house on the morning of Christmas to hide colored eggs for me to find.

However, as I grew older I began to recognize those tales I enjoyed in my younger years and was surprised at what I found. Almost all of them were disappointing. Take, for instance, Mother Goose's Peter Pumpkin Eater—a pure case of illogic: a bundling. Little Miss Muffet is a tale of terror, and the Iron-Clad Spider is an exercise in the Old Testament's wrath of God. Therefore, for the season of life with legend and mysticism that all derive from the truth and meaning of Christmas, I have asked a question concerning one of the many things that we Americans tell our children.

I asked five students what they think of the magical, overweight man who flies around the world breaking into homes, depositing presents, and taking milk and cookies.

Doug McCulloch, freshman: "I'm totally against Santa Claus anyway. He takes the meaning away from Christmas."

Amy Marsh, freshman: "As long as he gives me good things I don't mind."

Andy Berich, freshman: "It's the tradition of Christmas for that to happen, yet we know that's not the only reason. We have to celebrate Christ's birth."

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Concordia’s Women of Winter Gaining Recognition

by Pat Marsh

A much overlooked sport at Concordia is women’s basketball. It does not receive the hype and glam that men’s basketball traditionally receives. This is not because of a lack of intensity or excitement by the players, but a lack of awareness on the fans’ part. The Concordia women’s basketball program is a respectable force led by athletic director and coach Jodi Riggert.

This season is a season dimming as four of the five starters are freshman. This is not a curse, but a chance for the team to grow and mature and become collegiate players. There are leaders on the team, but they need a single, more vocal leader.

Coach Riggert has high expectations for her team this year. She looks forward to seeing her freshman mature and become collegiate players of the highest caliber.

The UMAC Ship

by Jodi Riggert

Concordia College-StPaul is completing its second straight year, the Comets came out after half of the highest level. In the conference the Comets have one of the best players in the conference. The team is a mix of returning seniors and new faces.

Several reasons support Concordia's decision to withdraw from the conference. Currently, the conference holds a somewhat lower academic and athletic reputation than what CSP would like to be associated with. Also, the eligibility standards of the conference are below what Concordia would like to subscribe to. Finally, the caliber of women’s athletics in the Upper Midwest Conference is not as high as CSP would prefer.

Many options result with Concordia becoming independent, but no immediate or specific plans have been made. CSP could become an NCAA III school, a step above the present NAIA II membership. The down side to that, though, is the difficulty of qualifying for post-season tournament action as an independent NCAA III team. There has been some discussion on forming a new conference with such schools as Northwestern, Northfield, University of Wisconsin Superior, Mount Sinai, Venetian, and a few others. No final decisions have been made as plans remain up in the air.

As an independent athletic college, Concordia may face a more competitive schedule and longer travels to game sites, but sports directors consider such changes to be a necessary and positive one.

Comet Hoopsters Battle Expectations

En Route to a 5-3 Start

by Jason Wolter

Not many basketball coaches would complain about being 5-3, when they have as tough a schedule as the Comets (except maybe Bobby Knight), but men’s basketball coach Dennis Getzlaff is feeling that way for a reason. He has a team with unlimited potential and great talent.

In addition to his own high expectations, the Concordia community expects his team to win every game. For a team to do that, it must play consistently great basketball. That, according to Getzlaff, is the problem.

With all the talent this team has, they still have yet to bring it all together as a cohesive unit for forty minutes. It was easy last year for the team to get, because no one expected them to be successful. The “us-against-the-world” mantra helps to psychologically unite a team.

But when a team has three guys starting who did not start last year, as well as three impact players who transferred in this year, it is hard to get them all on the same page. Warns Getzlaff, “I feel sorry for our opponents once we begin to play consistently.”

Perhaps the Comets are beginning to gel together. Among the five victories are two to St. Mary’s and St. Olaf. Both schools are larger in size and are members of the MIAC. They have one other thing in common: little CSP traveled to their court and beat them.

In the St. Olaf game, the Comets trailed by as many as 16 points in the first half, but for the second straight year, the Comets came out after half-time and quickly cut the margin to single digits.

By playing tough on the defensive end, the Comets were able to take a small lead with a couple minutes left in the game. Then apparently the referees had seen enough of this upset, or maybe they were fed up with the verbal barrage they received from the loud contingency of Concordia fans who made the trip. The refs made some bad calls. Their help allowed the Gophers to shoot enough free throws to take a three-point lead with 36 seconds left.

Prentiss Perkins, who was having little success from behind the three-point line, brought the full court press. With about 6 seconds to play, he “stepped to the front of the line,” as one assistant coach put it. He jumped, raising over the outstretched arms of two Os. Perkins staved his team to a 5-3 start with two three-pointers to seal the victory, 65-62.

Coming up for the Comets is perhaps their biggest game of the year, a match-up with St. Thomas. The Tommies are ranked 8 in the nation for NCAA Division III basketball by Sports Illustrated. The game is at St. Thomas on Saturday, December 17, at 7:30.

With the Timberwolves struggling and the Gophers scheduling non-conference cream puffs, this could be one of the best games you’ll have a chance to see this year...anywhere in Minnesota! See ya’ there!
Has the NBA Lost It?

by Ryan Smith

The NBA season is in full swing as we approach the holiday season. Fans are packing into brand new, high-tech arenas in droves, and the league continues to enjoy unwavering success. The NBA is hot as ever...or is it?

Not only do these unwavering, talking brats make large forums in such a short time, they instill any knowledgeable fans by playing lazy, uninspired basketball. They're obviously more worried about how they look than how they play, and winning isn't everything. In fact, it's virtually nothing!

And the league encourages all of it! Defensive rules don't allow players to make anything happen on that end of the court, and the so-called stars shoot (not make) more free throws than slowing down a supposedly high-paced game.

So where does a true fan of good basketball go to watch his or her beloved game? I suggest Washington, DC. NCAA basketball. These players care about winning and play hard enough to convince fans that they care. But as for the NBA...it's over.

Football, Volleyball Seasons Come to an End

by Jason Wolter

The volleyball and football seasons have ended. While the volleyball team had a very successful season, the football season was disappointing. Both teams featured a mixture of youth and experience, and both should look for better things next year.

The Lady Comets captured their fifth consecutive UMAC championship, going 11-1 in the conference. They also won 35 games, easily one of their most successful seasons. Their record earned them a spot in the NCAA Division II playoffs, but because of a mix-up, they were seeded fifth in the sub-region. They showed that this seeding was indeed a misstep by defeating Northern State University at Aberdeen, South Dakota in four games.

Their next opponent was the number one seed, Dordt College. Dordt defeated the Comets in three games, but lost to Moorhead State in the district final.

It was a great year for first-year coach, Lisa Golnitz. She has a good reason to look forward to next year—every player on the team should be back next year, as there were no seniors this season.

The Comet football team took their lumps this year. For starters, they did not live up to the high expectations that were placed on them by head coach, Tom Cross. They had a good core of All-Conference seniors returning and a bumper crop of talented rookies and first-year players. But a lack of consistency on both offense and defense led to a 2-r-7 record, 2-4 in the UMAC.

The Comets played NCAA Division III powerhouse, Wabash College (IN) and the NCAA Division I-AA Dayton Flyers. If Las Vegas bothered to post a betting line on these games, the odds wouldn't have been about a score, but about the number of players riding home in an ambulance.

The Comets played hard; however, they could not last against such talented teams, losing to both by large margins. The Comets graduated four All-Conference seniors, but they have a very talented group returning.

There's no reason to believe that this team cannot compete for the conference title in 1995.

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A Letter from the President

We're not at the U of M

I am writing in response to the letter in the last issue of The Sword that suggested that The Sword is exclusive and separatist because of its use of the cross. This idea may have been valid if we were all at the U of M because they are not affiliated with any specific religion. Therefore, they cannot use a symbol of any specific belief. Concordia, on the other hand, tells you they are a Christian college as soon as you walk through the door. In doing so they allow you to have chapel, religious classes, and put crosses on their newspapers.

This is not the paper's way of saying we are exclusively Christian or that no one else is welcome. The cross stands for Christianity and all its beliefs, including the idea of reaching out to everyone. If a person doesn't believe in Christianity or the ideals it stands for, then fine. Just ignore the crosses. It's your right to ignore them as much as it's the right of The Sword to put them in there. If someone were to put together a paper that offended no one, he would have nothing to write.

Sincerely,
Kurt Klaus

Disturbed by absence of cross icons

The omission of the cross icons at the end of each article in the November 6 issue of The Sword disturbs me. I do not think the crosses symbolize exclusivity, but rather affirm the foundation of which our institution is based. That foundation is the death of Jesus, on the cross, and rising three days later for us sinners.

While some may not like this, it is a Lutheran institution. Are we Christians supposed to be good, quiet students, not rejoicing in the belief that we are saved by Christ's death and resurrection?

In regard to the community, is it wrong for Concordia to spread its faith as it reaches out to the community? Concordia's Academic Catalog states on page 4, "The mission of Concordia College, a college of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, is to prepare students for thoughtful and informed living, for dedicated service to God and humanity, and for the enlightened care of God's creation, all within the context of the Christian Gospel. As Christian students of Concordia, we should want to show the community our faith. Also, does not the title, The Sword, come from Ephesians 6:17b? This verse states, 'The Sword of the spirit, which is the word of God.'

Please keep in mind that this is a Christian institution and while there is no intent to be exclusive, do not be afraid to spread and affirm the foundation of which Concordia is based upon.

Sincerely,
Michael Anicete

Editors' note: The absence of the cross icons in the Nov. 6 issue of The Sword had nothing to do with the letter writers to the editors. There were a number of complications during the production of the Hor. 6 issue. When the editors were given the working draft of The Sword (without the cross icons), we decided to forego the cross icons, rather than further hold-up the issue's publication.

A Vote for E-Mail

I would like to express my opinion regarding Thomas Soto's article about E-mail at C.S.P. (Nov. 6).

Last year, as a student at Concordia University in River Forest, IL, (C.U.R.F.) I had unlimited access to E-mail. I used the internet system to keep in contact with friends at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Olaf College, Macalester College, Bethel College and Boston University—just to name a few. In addition to keeping in contact with friends at different schools, I used E-mail daily to send messages to friends at C.U.R.F. Last May, my friend Deb, to whom I E-mailed everyday, pointed out many letters and gave them to me—they are now a priceless reminder of many adventures there.

How can I accurately describe the benefit of E-mail for college students? In addition to writing letters to friends, I was able to access information through a system called GopherNet. In this system I found out about local activities, events at other schools, and found the phone number of a long lost friend at a school in New York. I did this all on the computers—all within minutes. Thus, I was very disappointed to learn that all C.S.P. students did not have E-mail. Knowing that I could quickly and easily keep in contact with new friends at Concordia College-Seward and St. John's University by simply going into a computer lab, typing in my message and then hitting a key or two and it would be sent, or that I could still access that Daily Bulletin at C.U.R.F., or find out what the campus activities are at Notre Dame just as easily, had made my disappointment all the greater.

I keep reading The Sword about new projects C.S.P. has discussed: new playing fields, new football bleachers, a new stadium. What about a new computer system? While I love sports and agree there is a need for better fields, what about a better computer system which would have the potential to benefit all of the Concordia community? Doesn't anyone else here feel cheated because we don't have E-mail?

I understand that some students do not know what E-mail is and do not care to use it, but what about those of us who would like to use it? Don't we have a right to access something that, if we were attending another school, we'd already be logged on to? What about the minority of students who already have E-mail because of their on-campus job? I can understand that placing in campus-wide usage will be a long and difficult process but what about the idea of usage on a flow-continuous, first-served signup basis? (This way the computer center does not have to lose 1200 student mailboxes ready—what about 10, 15, or 20% of that number?) I don't agree that students should have to pay for the service—none of those accessing it now (those who have jobs) do, do they?

I would like to thank The Sword for addressing this issue.

Sincerely,
Tanya Laube

Please, Bring the Crosses Back

I would like to thank nic.5352rd for addressing the issue of crosses in the Nov. 6 issue. The omission of the cross icons at the end of each article in the November 6 issue of The Sword disturbs me. I do not think the crosses symbolize exclusivity, but rather affirm the foundation of which our institution is based. That foundation is the death of Jesus, on the cross, and rising three days later for us sinners.

While some may not like this, it is a Lutheran institution. Are we Christians supposed to be good, quiet students, not rejoicing in the belief that we are saved by Christ's death and resurrection?

In regard to the community, is it wrong for Concordia to spread its faith as it reaches out to the community? Concordia's Academic Catalog states on page 4, "The mission of Concordia College, a college of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, is to prepare students for thoughtful and informed living, for dedicated service to God and humanity, and for the enlightened care of God's creation, all within the context of the Christian Gospel. As Christian students of Concordia, we should want to show the community our faith. Also, does not the title, The Sword, come from Ephesians 6:17b? This verse states, 'The Sword of the spirit, which is the word of God.'

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Offensive...or a confession of faith?

In a November 4 letter to the editor, a writer expressed: "The crosses at the end of each article in The Sword disturb me, for they convey separatism and exclusivity." One can assume that the editors of The Sword readily agreed with this writer as witnessed by the fact that the cross icons were removed in the very same edition—before any other readers had a chance to respond!

The key question is where does one draw the line between expressing "confession of faith" and demonstrating sensitivity by not being "offensive"?

Throughout scripture we read about God's love being so great that He desires all people to share eternal paradise with Him. With that incredible thought in mind, one cannot help but want to share that tremendous news as often as possible.

The Apostle Paul's laundry list of persecutions is ample testimony of an individual who was willing to risk being "offensive" in order to express the gospel.

If the crosses are "offensive," then what are we to make of CSP's exclusively Christian chapel services and religion courses?

Every incoming student to Concordia receives a copy of the school catalog. Our Mission Statement clearly states that we are preparing students "all within the context of the Christian Gospel." But what if the crosses are "offensive," then what are we to make of CSP's exclusively Christian chapel services and religion courses?

In regard to the community, is it wrong for Concordia to spread its faith as it reaches out to the community? Concordia's Academic Catalog states on page 4, "The mission of Concordia College, a college of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, is to prepare students for thoughtful and informed living, for dedicated service to God and humanity, and for the enlightened care of God's creation, all within the context of the Christian Gospel. As Christian students of Concordia, we should want to show the community our faith. Also, does not the title, The Sword, come from Ephesians 6:17b? This verse states, 'The Sword of the spirit, which is the word of God.'

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Dear Santa:

How ya doing big guy? I'm doing well. How's the Mrs.? I hope you two are doing well up there. How was your summer? Mine was great; I graduated high school and now am at college. Why? Because my parents say I'm ready. How was your summer? Mine was great; I graduated from high school and now am at Concordia College, but you know that, right.

This Christmas will be a little different from the ones in the past. I'm really not into Matchbox cars or Transformers anymore (but I have kept all my old ones). What I could really use is cash...for school. Since I'm a commuter, I could also use some things for my car. Maybe a new set of snow tires or an air filter? Or if you are really in a giving mood, you could just give me a new car altogether, a Jeep or a Jaguar would be nice, you can even choose the color, but I'd settle for a Jeep. Just leave it in my driveway. You don't have to wrap it...well, maybe a big bow.

Other than those needs, I'm OK. But if you do have a surplus of Super Nintendo's, I'll take one of those, and a Donkey Kong Country game to go with it. I hope I'm not asking for much, but a guy's got to have his necessities. Well, I'm sure you've got a bunch more letters to write and a huge list to check twice so I'll be good. I'll write again next year and I hope everyone goes all right.

Sincerely,
Rob Delmont

Dear Santa:

May everyone experience the joy of giving and receiving, imitable, secret gifts. Thanks for your example.

Jean