Professor Norris Lived Incredible Life

by Lydia Wittman

A musician whose audiences have included Bob Hope, Sonny and Cher, and James Brown, Professor Richard Norris shares a wealth of talent, enthusiasm, and teaching ability with the Concordia community. Norris, director of bands and music education at CSP, reluctantly began his music career on the violin as a small child. “I hated every minute of it,” says Norris, who took up lessons out of obedience to his parents. He admits, now, however, “I suppose I’m glad they pushed me into music and teaching.”

If he is only supposedly glad, senior, band member Jennifer Trittin is overjoyed at Norris’s position as Concordia’s band director. “He was a big influence in my decision to come here.” Trittin appreciates that Norris “really cares about the students more than most directors when it comes to practicing and tuning.”

But Norris’s talents do not just stop there. As a performer living in New York and performing with such nationally acclaimed artists as Charlie Rich and Wayne Newton, he devoted six to seven hours each day to his trombone. Fortunately for Concordia students, Norris was “not willing to sacrifice that much of [my] time,” for long, and his talents eventually brought him to St. Paul where he could make use of his abilities and the teaching degree which he claims to have originally attained in order to please his parents.

When asked if he would advocate a music/teaching career for his children in the same way he was encouraged, Norris responded, “It was a different time period when I was young. My wife and I really, wanted to give our kids a choice of their own regarding their careers.” He adds, “But we did make them take piano lessons.” Long-time friend and colleague Dr. David Carlstrom will attest that Norris is “very devoted to his family. He has a professional attitude, enjoys life, and has a good sense of humor.”

Norris comments, “My most enjoyable performance experience had to be with an all-black jazz band in St. Louis with special guest Miles Davis. Jazz, of course, is his favorite style of music. “The test of time has proved it to be good music.” Some of Norris’s other favorites include bands such as The Beatles and Chicago, the composer Mozart, and the trombone is his most-loved instrument (although he claims not to have a desk-loving).

Norris, a hidden treasure among the Concordia community, occasionally performs three to four times per month, but his passion now belongs to teaching. “I’ve been in this business a long time. I’m in it because it’s fun.”

Editor’s Note: Professor Norris passed away December 21. This article was written prior to his death and stands as a tribute to all of his wonderful accomplishments. We would like to extend our prayers and thoughts to all who knew and loved him.

TSE to the Rescue!

by Lydia Wittman

You may have been wondering who those friendly workers are in the dining hall who graciously clean up our messes. Six special employees at Marriott are here through a program called Training Support Employment (TSE) and are offering their abilities to clean the lunch room in return for a job.

Chan Lovelace, employment specialist in the TSE program, explains, “Our goal is to find community employment for people with developmental disabilities.” She says that working in the food service at Concordia is one of several opportunities of employment in the Twin Cities for those involved in TSE.

The kind faces of Willie, Jenny, Carol, Roger, Bette, and Bev will most likely be around the Concordia campus for awhile. While they have only been working at CSP for a little over a quarter, it appears to be a promising situation for both TSE and Marriott. Bruce Nelson, account manager of Marriott food services, agrees: “TSE program has a lot of effects for the positive. The dining room looks much cleaner since they have been working here.” He adds, “I appreciate integrating the developmentally handicapped into our community. It gives students the exposure to different types of people.”

As far as the actual TSE workers are concerned, they seem to love their jobs most of all. “I like the people here,” says Willie. “My old job was harder. I want to stay here forever.”

It might not be forever, but the average job placement is three years in the TSE program. Lovelace explains, “We don’t want them to get bored, and we want them to have a chance to earn more money and handle more responsibilities.”

Marriott does hope to continue using TSE in the years to come. “We will continue the program unless there is a major problem,” states Nelson. But, so far, he says, “There have been a lot more positives than negatives, and the negatives get taken care of right away.”

“[The TSE workers] are a nice, positive addition to the day. They have more and more responsibilities as the year goes on. Willie can now run a carpet shampooper.” He adds, half-jokingly, “They also now supervise Tom, our chef in running the yogurt machine.”

Take A Peak Inside!

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Volume 31, Issue 5
Concordia College, 275 North Syndicate, St. Paul, MN 55104
Friday January 12, 1996
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For your free brochure about organ and tissue donation call 1-800-355-SHARE.
Peterman Runs Straight to Nationals!

by Lydia Wittman

A season of sweat, tears, blood, and miles paid off for freshman Kyle Peterman a couple of Saturdays ago. Peterman, the fourth person ever in the history of Concordia College - St. Paul to compete in inter-collegiate National Championships, had the incredible opportunity to run with some of the best college runners in America at UW-Parkside on November 18, 1995 at the NAIA National meet.

Peterman is the second CSP cross-country runner to make it to the National meet, the first being Chris Brown in the 1993 season. "I was not even thinking about Nationals going into the season. I just wanted to make varsity," claims Peterman about his unexpected success in competitions this year.

Coach Brian Schmidt, bringing the team to participate in Concordia's new athletic region this year, says, "I was unsure of how tough the region was, but I thought he had a good chance of making it to Nationals."

Schmidt does claim, however, that he hoped Kyle would go "to see what it was all about," and not necessarily for competitive purposes. "Kyle has a good head on his shoulders and natural athletic ability. My goal was for him to peak at regionals and qualify for the Nationals - just for the experience of being there but not to compete. He's too young to compete yet. He was among the best runners in the country."

And what exactly did the NAIA National meet look like? Kyle described the five miles (8,000 meters) as "really slippery, cold, and muddy." Schmidt agreed, "The conditions were not ideal to say the least." Despite the bad weather, Kyle was able to keep his thoughts focused on his pace which led him to finish with a time of 28:46. His average time throughout the season was in the low 27 minutes.

Kyle's only regret is that he didn't have his team in the race with him. His coach, though, does offer hope for the 1996 season. "I definitely think we can win regionals next year with the help of Kyle and teammates Jonathan Breidbach, as well as incoming students." Winning regionals would qualify the team to compete in the National championship.

Congratulations to Kyle on an outstanding running season and participation in this National event!

Danceline: Alive & Kickin'

By Jodi Riggett

Now, for your halftime entertainment, the Concordia College Danceline! You heard it correctly; for your enjoyment, the Concordia College Danceline will be performing during the halftimes of several of the men's and women's basketball games this season. This group of eleven women, under the direction of their faculty advisor Tonya Bangert, has been practicing intensively five times a week in order to perfect several dances which will be performed about twelve different times this basketball season. The danceline has already been out on the floor a couple of times already this year, including a performance during the halftime of the Concordia football game at the Metrodome.

A Message From:
The Love Doctor

The Love Doctor Returns

Well, I'm back on the attack! That's right, the people at The Sword allowed me to continue my article. I have received many letters from all of you. So now it's time for the Love Doctor to go into action:

Q: I'm going to meet my girlfriend's parents. Any suggestions on how to impress them?

A: Yes, just be yourself. If she already likes you don't worry. Her parents are more likely to like you if you act like yourself and you treat her well. Besides, they say that the female is most likely to date someone who is a lot like her dad. If that is true, then the mom should like you at least.

That's all for this round, but this is just the beginning for The Love Doctor, so keep sending those letters to the Sword Office (#2223). If you would like to E-mail me my address is: gusej@genesis.csp.edu

Thanks,
The Love Doctor

(Spring Break)

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This is, honestly, a fantastically successful diet. If it weren't, the U.S. Women's Alpine Ski Team wouldn't be permitted to use it, Right? So, give yourself the same break the U.S. Ski Team gets. Lose weight the scientific, proven way. Even if you've tried all the other diets, you owe it to yourself to try the U.S. Women's Alpine Ski Team Diet. That is, if you really do want to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. Order today! Tear this out as a reminder.

Send only $8.95 ($9.60 in Calif.) - add .50 cents RUSH service to: American Institute, 721 E. Main Street, Dept. 254, Santa Maria, CA 93454-4507. Don't order unless you expect to lose 20 pounds in two weeks! Because that's what the Ski Team Diet will do. ©1995
Smashing Alice and Captain Ahab

by Patrick R. Marsh

The long awaited follow-up to The Smashing Pumpkins 1992 release of "Siamese Dream" has finally become a reality. It is a two-CD set entitled "Mellon Collie and Infinite Sadness." The set is sold together (unlike the ever popular G'n'R set) and can be purchased for around $17 at a big retailer. The music is classic Pumpkins along with some experimentation. Songs like "Zero," "Love, Where Do You Think You're Goin'," and the chorus of "Drown" demonstrate their trademark channel switching, bass driven, noise filled caterwauling.

To forgive gives us (often more enjoyable) taste of their trippy style reminiscent of Smashing Alice and Captain Ahab. They have also stepped things up to the point of pure thrash on songs like "No One." The odd riffs can be heard on several songs (especially "Head Creeps") and add a Halloween-like feel to the album. The other songs to the modeled area is Layne Staley's less than beautiful lyrics. Many songs are about despair and the loss of hope. This CD, as all AIC, is not made to celebrate the joy of life. However, it has the power to move the listener emotionally, and that's where it excels.

I just got the new Moby CD: "Everything is Wrong." It's my first Moby CD, not his, and I am definitely pleased with his work. What can we classify it as? Probably, somewhere between techno and that enigmatic genre that Enigma started five years ago. The CD starts off quite relaxing and melodic, and it soon drops the listeners on their backs. Songs like "I Just Want To Be Loved" and "What Love" give us a taste of their trippy style reminiscent of Smashing Alice and Captain Ahab. The majority of the songs would not be out of place at the local discotheque and are very enjoyable, but the odd songs are the ones that are the real treasures. Perhaps the best is "What Love." It starts out with a distorted tribute to blues and turns into a moody's nirvana. It then chill out again for a smooth ending. If you don't go for the hard-core noise filled caterwauling, you will suit you well. Another interesting part about this CD is the booklet. Moby preaches his beliefs through two essays where he aligns himself with Christ, but not the "Christian right." He also gives two pages of facts about our ever eroding planet and its resources. Moby's biggest kick is for a vegetarian diet. There are quotations from several sources including Albert Schweitzer, Henry David Thoreau, and Albert Einstein. This guy has some serious political strings, but his music is simply quality.
**Letters to the Editor:**

Many faculty men and women have expressed a serious concern regarding the pressurized, distorted view of feminism presented in *The Sword*. Feminism is a belief that respects the competence and dignity of all people and that acknowledges the equality of women and men. It also promotes that the social and vocational roles one plays in life should not be prescribed by one's gender or genitalia, but by one's interests, talents, motivations, and needs.

Written in *The Sword*, particularly in two articles—"What's Up" and "He Said/She Said"—which appeared in the October 16, 1995 issue, have called feminism a "plot," claimed that a feminist can never be a "true woman" (sic) and suggested that being a feminist is acceptable as long as you are not a "she hard (sic) feminist," and asserted that inclusive language is simply a "triumph of political correctness." These undervalued and biased comments call into question whether or not Concordia's goal of developing critical thinking skills in students is being achieved. In addition, one particularly offensive statement, that "women are my favorite hobby," clearly objects to the inclusiveness of our social and vocational roles one plays in life should not be prescribed by one's gender or genitalia, but by one's interests, talents, motivations, and needs.

We simply respect that accuracy and fairness become higher priorities in publishing articles concerning feminism. Editorials that masquerade as news violate journalistic integrity. Attempts at humor that are basically ignorant and insulting aren't very funny. Our hope is that all members of our campus community—students, staff, and faculty—will strive to do better in presenting ideas and opinions that strengthen the respect we have for one another.

Judi Klingruck  
Nan Hackett  
Seryl Mensikke  
Charlotte Knoche  
David J. Bredehoft  
William Nebergall  
Barbara Beers  
Barb Schoenbeck  
Kathryn Schmitz  
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Kay Madsen  
Alisa N. Potter  
Bob DeWitt  
Miran Lutheke  
Phyllis Deer

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**He Said**

by Andrew J. Evertard

I was very lucky to have had her as a teacher. She's someone who has given one of the best skills that a person can have. Her name was Mrs. White, and she was my second grade teacher in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She was a large woman, I mean she could have played on the offensive line at Michigan, but she was so gentle and had a great attitude towards life.

I remember the day, it was Michigan and Michigan State football weekend. The whole state was in maize and blue or green and white. My friend Johnny took my favorite Michigan hat and ran into the bathroom. The next thing I knew, my hat was in the toilet being flushed and refushed again and again. I ran to Mrs. White, and she asked me what was wrong, and I told her that my evil Spartan friend took my hat and flushed it down the toilet.

What happened next was the best thing that has ever happened to me. Mrs. White just told me, "Andrew, it's not my problem, go to the source of the problem and deal with it." To make a long story short, I rescued my hat from the toilet and once again donned my school colors and solved my own problem. I kicked the Spartan out of Johnny that day.

Now I have a phone number, I use an e-mail address, and I have a批发市场, but once that day my teacher use these communication devices. Like me and the Johnny situation, they ran off and had to find teachers—this case *The Sword*. I have too many important things to do than to listen to these few professors who need to lighten up. My advice to you all, go talk to your second grade teachers in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

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**She Said**

by Bethany Moritz

First off, let me just say, that like many other people on this campus, I was shocked to read some of the things printed in the *Sword*, however I can only comment on the column which I co-write which is the *He Said/She Said*. There is one thing that I have always kept in mind when reading and writing editorials, and that is that everyone is entitled to his or her opinion. Whether other people agree or disagree is their right. Maybe this is something we all should be reminded of, again.

Another thing that has troubled me is the offensive taken to the "Women are my favorite hobby," line, now I did not particularly like this statement, but would there have been this much reaction if I would have said, "Men are my favorite hobby?" Most likely not, it probably would have made people laugh, and no back would be wanted on it after that. I highly doubt that any men's rights groups, or faculty would be jumping down my back. It would probably be considered a cute "gush" thing to say. Through writing this column I have realized a double standard there is today between men and women, that's what offends me.

Let me just end by saying I know my co-writer he is a good guy, and I may not agree with all his opinions, but I respect the fact that he has the guts to express them. My hope is that all members of our campus community—students, staff, and faculty—will strive to remember the Constitution, and the right to freedom of speech. And if the honesty of our opinions in He Said She Said seems "laughing" and "ignorant," well then that's your opinion, and I respect that, a "skill," I learned from my parents. And Drew, let me just say my grandma loved your article.

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**Shadowbox a Huge Success!**

Dear Editor,

It was my great pleasure to attend the Student Showcase performance of *The Shadowbox* in the Theatre Lab on December 1. This production made me very proud and pleased to be associated with Concordia College. The direction was well-paced and professional, particularly in the gripping second act; the closing scene achieved an almost musical rhythm as the various characters interplayed. The scenic design was creative and effective in defining each of the acting spaces while underscoring their subtle interconnections. The acting was simply superb.

The play itself was challenging; indeed, it sparked much discussion on campus. The work deals with very mature issues in an often graphic manner. I wish to affirm its presentation on this campus. It is a solid piece of work that provided a wonderful vehicle for the growth of our students—both performers and audience. This play has led to many thought-provoking discussions between people and deep soul-searching within individuals. What better place could such examinations take place than in a liberal arts college operating in the context of the Christian Gospel? Here we can boldly face the real challenges of life together, upheld by the community we share.

Once again, I congratulate and thank the cast and crew of "The Shadowbox." I also applaud my theatre colleagues for supporting this production. They are making solid educational use of our fine new theatre facility. I look forward to seeing many more plays of such depth, intensity, and quality in the future.

Sincerely,

David Mensikke
Associate Professor of Music
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Different Divisions, Different Futures

by Teresa Kunze

Some people go that way, others go that way, and some go both ways. Our life's plans and goals may indeed be as different as those directed by the scarceow to the Wizard of Oz. His arms flail in ambiguous directions as our own may find in despair. How about letting your 10 years ahead...? How in the world is that going to be written on a high school letter jacket? Okay, maybe that's irrelevant. However, as college students, we're often faced with looming questions of the future. In fact, conversation with friends may lead to a joint about forever being a poorer scooper technician or professional turtle shell polisher...yeah, funny. However, your own eyes may narrowly scan your future, because you know, regardless of your credits and degrees, you probably will be a baseball bleacher splinter remover for the rest of your life.

Okay, maybe not. However, when approached with this question, students often talk a split second to rapidly calculate...I'll be...? Yeah! There it is...and where will we all be?

To analyze this question, five students representing the different division departments painted a future from their present expectations. Focusing primarily on academics, the representatives shared the heights of their ambitions, as well as other intricate cultural factors that may affect their career plans. In addition, they expressed: forestry/wildlife, education, and alternative medicine. An exception to this is one student who is focusing on language.

"A DEE is in a parish, getting married with two children. I'll be serving God and being the best damn father in the whole wide world, and husband." - Matt Wodell

"I think I will be living on the West Coast, hopefully practicing as a physical therapist. Maybe married, maybe some kids." - Beth Feels

"I'll be married with two kids, living in Iowa, working with my brother with our home business." - Alice Payne

"Hopefully in 10 years I'll be married with three kids. I'll be running one of my dad's businesses." - Cedo Villanueva

"Married with two kids, adopted, working as a special education teaching in a suburb of the Twin Cities." - Lisa Pederson

"Living it up in the Bahamas with a home." - Heidi Friesen

"I'll be married, I'll have three to five kids and I'll be teaching in a high school, coaching baseball." - Erin Mathijssen

"Hopefully I'll be teaching high school History and Social Studies, married, three kids, and hopefully my handwriting will have gotten better." - Calvin Shaker

"I hope to have recorded a number of albums, more than one, and be able to support myself in my music. I would also like to improve my song writing, piano, guitar, and singing ability, and have learned new instruments. If I get married...Wish me well!" - Joel Rankin

"Marriage! Children! God, sometimes it may feel like you still want to throw on Mom's beads or Dad's tie and take you play out to the sandlot...not the real world. Then, again, we get to take it out to the real world! Just as the act of the bride and groom prepare a child for the future, the student representatives expressed how Concordia is preparing them for the play of life."

From Concordia, Eileen has, "learned to love and appreciate God's creation and speak to others of this privilege. I've had to help them work on their relationship with Christ." Eisenbraun cites the openness of opportunities the Fine Arts has provided by saying, "If you want to try lights, try lights. If you want to direct, you can direct." Jones adds the positive experience of professors by acknowledging, "Individual attention from Professor Epps has been exceptional and incomparable, priceless," while Launzen broadens the compliment to his department as he states, "The Education Department is wonderful...has really made me excited to teach.

Soudas concludes, "I think my education is more than just a degree, it's learning about myself, other people, and the world I live in. And I think Concordia is more than just a college, it's an environment that nurtures emotional and spatial development as well as intellectual development."

"Why didn't we stick with firearms and wagons? Maybe some of us have...for many others the future looms ahead, a doorway for opportunity and challenges. Dr. Seuss in Oh, the Places You'll Go! closes, so be your Bateman or Baby or Bway or Mandinit Ali Van Allen O'Shea, you're off to Great Places. Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So...get on your way!

Many places we'll travel, so do not dare dub. Grab a map on the way, and look out for prickly burs. Maybe someday we'll meet...sweet! But one thing I know, I won't be a popo.

Proverbs 16: 3-9.