Singing praise to the Lord

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light by Walter Jones

The audience files in, the house lights dim and all goes black as mumbled words of the injustices in today's society are said at random intervals from various places by the choirs that are surrounding the auditorium. "For behold..." comes a loud voice from the darkness as a bright light suddenly illuminates Isaiah as he walks slowly toward the stage. He then points toward the audience at the lighted candle now being carried from the rear of the audience.

Soon the only light in the auditorium is the candle, slowly making its way toward the cross on stage. In the fine tradition of the previous years' concerts, the 1996 Concordia College Fine Arts Christmas Concert is underway.

"What we were really trying to do [with the concert] is connect Christmas with the crucifixion and the resurrection," says David Mennicke, choral director for the concert. This was certainly prevalent in the theme for this year, Out of Darkness...Light. This theme was woven tightly into the concert through the thoughtful choice of choral works, small dialogues featuring characters from the Bible, and the use of distinct lighting moods throughout the concert.

Also, it seemed as if this theme of coming into the light became more pronounced toward the end of the concert as the lights became brighter and the sounds of the music filled the auditorium until it seemed as if we were listening to the heavenly choir itself. "It's really a total move from darkness to light," says Mennicke.

This year's concert encompassed much of the campus as it involved nearly the entire music, theatre, and visual arts departments. It included three different vocal ensembles, including Christus Chorus and Jubilate, the hand bell choir, over twenty different instrumentalists from the student body, and several guest instrumentalists.

"I was really excited," recalls Dawn Anderson of the Christus Chorus. "It was a very moving performance, especially with all of the drama that was added."

Because the incident occurred on the public streets of St. Paul, CSP's security department could do little to recompense for the damage done. However, security did offer as many provisions as possible to the victims including a phone access code to call long distance insurance companies or parents, as well as vacuums, tape, and plastic to cover the windows.

"In response to the vandalism," Mulso mentioned, "we have increased coverage of the campus to two guards [during the early morning shift] at least through December 20." She also emphasized that the crime statistic reports for Concordia is no better or worse than any other St. Paul college. It should be noted that Concordia does provide two secure parking lots for overnight parking.

Junior Nikki Powell, one of the unlucky car owners, explained why she chooses the street parking over the lots. "I would rather have my car endangered than myself. When I get home from work at 11:30 p.m., I do not want to hike back from Lot D alone."

Another student affected by the car window scandal, freshman Tim Brasher, commented, "I'm just thankful that I even have a car to get vandalized; some people don't even have that."

Certainly it is in dire situations like this that we learn to appreciate and value all of God's gifts, material and non, with which we are so richly blessed.
A View from the tunnel

Having a good time

by Tom Gundermann

What's wrong with this picture? People are having a good time at CSP! Don't they know! Christmas is supposed to be stressful. That's what the psychologists tell us. And maybe Christmas is stressful, but the view from the tunnel tells people having a good time.

It's not that I disagree with the psychologists who tell us that Christmas is a stressful time. No, I trust psychology. I trust my professional experience which confirms the assessment of the psychologists regarding the season of the year.

And it isn't just that I think we at CSP live in "Neverland," blissfully ignorant of the frailties of life. There's far too much evidence to contradict that assessment, not the least of which is my conversation with those whose stresses lead them to the campus pastor for care.

So, why are people having a good time?

I think the answer is community. I think you are doing a good job at community here at CSP. And I think that community has a sustaining quality that helps people keep the bumps and bruises of life in perspective so that they can go on to deal with life.

One of my favorite times each day is the ten minutes before chapel. People come into the building and greet one another and visit and — pardon the apes-utes before chapel. People come into the building and greet one another and visit and — pardon the expression — chatter like monkeys. And I love it. I love it because I think it says that we come to chapel not because we feel we must, and not because we are so desperate that we can't get through life without it and not to pray (even though all of those things may be true). We come partially because we have a good time when we are together. Christ creates community in a unique way when people gather at his invitation to worship. And in some ways, it is very appropriate to hear the sound of celebrating as the people gather.

That same spirit is what I see in the tunnel and in the dining hall and around campus. And I congratulate you for keeping the festive spirit alive through all the ups and downs of campus life. How you do whatever you can to keep it alive through the days ahead, even the dank and dreary post Christmas days.

A visitor stopped me in the hall one day to say how much he had appreciated the morning chapel service. He ended his remarks by saying, "The best part was watching as I left the building and seeing all those people touching. For most people, that's just not enough touch in life. I was deeply moved." At Christmas, God touched the world. At Christmas, he restored community. In the miracle of that fragile infant, God began to do what all the king's horses and all the king's men could never do. For Humpty and for us. And all the while, he had his eyes on the cross, when the resurrection would be complete.

And since then, the world has never been the same.

So my prayer is that the Lamb of God himself would lead you to the most meaningful celebration of his birth that you have ever known, and that your celebration would last a lifetime.

Keep in touch. Literally. And keep on having a good time. It's God's idea. We were created for community and for celebration.

\[\begin{align*}
\text{You and the pew} & \\
\text{by Gerry Coleman, Campus Pastor} & \\
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There hasn't been a shortage of live music on campus lately, thanks to Dan Asmus, Student Senate and some local bands. Here's a few highlights from the past few coffeehouses.

In early November, a very local band called Buck came to campus and played for a great crowd. Shawn Hecksel opened with a few of his songs. A week later Concordia's own Loyal Yoke Fellows brought the house down. Nate "A" Houge was kind enough to open for them. Next came Fat 'n Happy, a group from the Youth Encounter circle of friends, who brought their ministry, humor, and incredible harmonies to campus in late November. Marq Fuchs helped out with this concert, playing a number of his own original tunes. New Vision, a traveling ministry from Youth Encounter, played a late night concert the first Monday after Thanksgiving. Amiee Wesolik, a former CSP student, travels with New Vision. Finally, in early December, Buck returned again for their CD release party.

Look out for posters for future coffeehouses. Bring your friends, your interest in music, and your own mug!!!

Aaron Erkkinen, freshman: "The best gift I ever got was being able to celebrate Christmas with my entire extended family a few years ago."

Joel Zander, sophomore: "One Christmas I wanted a little disc man really badly because there were five people sharing one CD player in my house, but my mom made it sound like they wouldn't be able to afford it. But, on Christmas day, I was surprised to find a 3-disc changer CD player under the tree."

Sara Stafford, junior: "My weirdest gift was a dickie from my grandma. No one could figure out what it was; we thought some material was seriously missing from a shirt. My cousins still tease me about it today."

Dawn Gilles, senior: "My aunt once gave my dad a Pet Fart [an empty can with a 'pretend' fart in it]. Since then it is a tradition that the Pet Fart is passed from family member to family member every year."

Tunes from Tier III

by Tom Gundermann

There hasn't been a shortage of live music on campus lately, thanks to Dan Asmus, Student Senate and some local bands. Here's a few highlights from the past few coffeehouses.
What Students Want For Christmas:

8. A tunnel so people who don’t live in Luther can feel important too.

Imagine then you’re sitting in a church and then a pastor begins the worship service, but there is no sound, only hand gestures. But, don’t panic; the hand gestures are a form of language known as Sign Language. The church service I am describing is a Deaf church service.

Yes, a Deaf church service. My hearing friends in high school expected a lot of differences when they went to Deaf worship with me. They were partly correct, but they were also surprised by the many similarities between hearing and Deaf church services.

I could understand their surprise. After all, I grew up in a hearing church and didn’t attend a Deaf church until I was about eight or nine years old. For me, the sudden change from a hearing to Deaf church was a shock. I no longer just sat around reading the picture Bible and staring at the window, longing to run around, tired of all the boredom I had to endure. I suddenly found I had no excuse to wiggle around or let my gaze wander.

Instead I focused on the pastor who spoke in a language I understood, in an easier and simpler way. His name is Pastor Darrel Kois.

It was at that moment that my true spiritual growth began. Until then, I had only thought that the picture Bible I read was just a bunch of stories. Now, I understand it’s not fictional stories. I know that God is real.

Deaf and hearing church services are different in style and yet similar. The hearing church I attended as a young girl was rigid, strict, and tended to use a lot of songs from the hymn book. There wasn’t a lot of relaxation or fellowship.

When I spoke to others about hearing churches, their perceptions were different from mine when I was younger. I also found that my own perception changed when I attended chapel on campus.

The chapel on campus has a more relaxed environment, more fellowship, more display of brother- and-sister-in-Christ love than the church of my childhood. I was able to adjust pretty quickly because the Deaf church has a similar warm environment.

When Molly later saw a videotape I had of Deaf worship from back home, she said, “As a hearing person, I find it hard to follow because it takes a long time.” I told her that the opposite was true for me. I found the hearing worship difficult because it went too fast.

Erica Talle told me that hearing churches have organs and live music. I told her a surprise: at the Deaf church I attend (in Minneapolis), once in a while they do have a hearing person play the organ.

Also, once, back home in Iowa, Pastor Kois asked the congregation if someone would like to volunteer to lead a song while he played it on the organ. Up to the challenge, I volunteered. I have some hearing, so I strained to hear the notes. I’ll admit my timing was not perfect, but I am not Jesus!

Bethanie Klaas, Adam Engelmann, and Dan Kois attended a Deaf service with me. Bethanie wants people on campus to know that, “The Deaf church made me feel so warm and welcome. I really enjoyed my time there. It is a really great experience and I hope that all of you would feel open to go experience something new. I had a great time at the Deaf church, and it really helped me open up to the world that the Deaf people live in. I am very glad I met a Deaf person, it opened a whole new aspect to what a Deaf person feels and I know now that feeling and it is a great one to have felt.”

Adam told me that visiting the Deaf church was a very interesting experience for him. "I did not know what sort of thing to expect, but the Bible study and the church service were similar to hearing churches," Adam said.

Dan Kois already knew what to expect because his father is Pastor Kois from back home. For him, even though he’s hearing, going to the Deaf church is easier for Dan because he knows what is going on. Dan said, "Being a hearing person growing up in a Deaf church, it seems that the difference between the two churches involves how you have to use the language." In other words, Deaf don’t speak/sign exact English words, they omit some words, or change the grammar structure of a sentence in sign language.

For me, in a way, both hearing and Deaf churches are easy but difficult. I know what to expect in the services, I know the songs, but at the same time, it is difficult for me to follow. At the hearing church, it is not surprising to people that it is difficult for me to follow along, but at the Deaf church, it is surprising to people. Even though I am Deaf and sign, I do not sign well. At home, I voice and lip-read a lot. People have to know me well to understand my voice.

I have lost of opportunities in both churches to contribute my knowledge and skills. At the hearing churches to which my friends invite me, I try to sign the words of the songs and contribute some of my knowledge to the Bible study. At the Deaf church, I am in the choir and back home, I have been laying waste since I was sixteen. I still do it on occasion if no one else is available.

The Deaf choir is a little different. Either someone who had a song memorized will sing it solo or the pastor will listen to a tape and sign the words to the choir and the congregation will copy the signs.

I like both churches. I usually go to the Deaf church, but a friend asks me, I’ll go to the hearing church if I have no prior commitments to the Deaf church. I love going to both churches.

Hello. I’m Andy Potsko, maybe you know me... maybe not. This is a peculiar column. I’m not supposed to discuss anything really important, just the things that are on my mind. So please, if you are going to broaden this column like it’s some allegorical account of parallel events at CSP don’t.

The gripping question I have for you this time is this: what if human beings were created with noses that pointed upward? “It would revolutionize the eyeglass industry,” (quote by an unmentioned history prof with long pony tail and big bushy beard who didn’t want to be quoted in this article). We’d always be cleaning our glasses, that’s for sure if they don’t fall off during the forceful explosion. It would rapidly decrease the economy of hair gel. And the Kleinex company would crash because of gravity. But if you went to a country where it is illegal to import diamonds, you could hide them in your nose and customs would never know it. The worst repercussion of this metamorphosis would be the significant rise in drownings during rainstorms.

What’s the moral of this article? God knew what he did when he created you and he loves every bit of you, so don’t change a thing that God gave you. Besides, I think most people look better with noses that point downward. God bless and keep the faith!
Hello and Happy Holidays to you all! I have a great theme for you this week, and you may be shocked that I have decided to forego the "Christmas theme," but here goes. It's Outer Space theme month here at the Couch. Our three course celluloid dinner goes something like this:

Our appetizer for today is Space Jam, which stars the Looney Tunes and the amazing Michael Jordan. The idea is that the Tunes are going to be made to serve an evil overlord to help boost ticket sales at his interstellar theme park. The Tunes ask if they can play a game for their lives, and they are granted their wish. They choose basketball. The bad guys absorb the 'powers' of various NBA stars, and Bugs and crew recruit Mike. (All I have to say about that scenario is that thank God they were not playing BASEBALL for their lives.) Well, chaos ensues and the jokes fly fast. Hint: pay attention to Daffy Duck. He should have had first billing. I give it two and a half grunts. It's fun.

The main course, you ask? Well, none other than Star Trek First Contact. I am not the biggest Trekkie in the world, but I do enjoy the movies, and this one was wonderful. I am not going to tell you the plot, because a lot of people who are Trekkians would be livid if they had not seen the movie and read this article. But I'll say this: First Contact was better than Generations, but not as good as The Undiscovered Country. I give it three and a half grunts. The movie was damn good.

Ah, dessert. And what have we here? My, my, my, it's Independence Day! This was one of my favorite movies this past summer. It loses something in the transfer to the small screen, but it is still just as good as the first time I saw it. The premise is this: alien ships about five miles in diameter invade earth's space and hover over all the major cities on the globe. The next day, they attack, and of course, on the fourth of July, the earthlings fight back. It's patriotic and unifyng, and a heck of a great special effects bonanza. Just make sure you have a large screen TV, because the real theme to this one is BIG. Big ships, big guns, big running time. Well over two hours.) I give I.D.4 three and a half grunts, because Will Smith is so cool.

Well that's it this issue folks. Have a great Holiday Season and a better new year, and I'll see you on the Couch next month.
January

National:
The FDA approves the use of "Olestra" in processed foods. The synthetic fat substitute is dubbed as the solution to America's weight problem. The product would later be criticized for its side-effects.

Massive blizzards nail the east coast. Record snow falls from Washington D.C. to Boston left cars in ditches and more than 100 weather-related deaths. Government employees go back to work Jan 26 as the government shut-down caused by the absence of a budget draws to an end. The shut down began Dec. 16.

Michael Jackson and Lisa Marie Presley officially end their short, often-questioned marriage.

April

CSP:
Prince wrote a song saying "we're gonna party around the world...

O.J. Simpson's video hits the market. Enough said.

World:
A fragile Peace accord is reached in the Bosnian conflict. U.S. troops are in place to hold the peace, but weather problems are making operations about President Boris Yeltsin's control in the Post-Gold War era. A fragile Peace accord is reached in the Bosnian conflict. U.S. troops are in place to hold the peace, but weather problems are making operations difficult.

February

CSP:
Snow Week!

CSP's Business Department establishes the Sigma Beta Delta society on campus, recognizing those who excel in the business program.

Gospel Time in Gospel Rhyme performs in E.M. Pearson Theater.

Company of Wayward Saints, a student production, performs in the blackbox.

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March

Sports:
NFL coach Don Shula retires as head coach of the Dolphins under pressure from media and fans. Shula amassed 347 wins over 33 years in the pros and guided his team to six Super Bowls, as well as the only undefeated season in NFL history. Shula's replacement would be Jimmy Johnson, formerly of the Cowboys.

Speaking of the Cowboys, "America's Team" polished off Pittsburgh in Super Bowl XXXI 27-17.

April

CSP:
Several Concordia groups travel abroad to minister or study including CMS, art students, band and the King's Players.

National:
President Clinton meets with TV industry representatives and comes away with rating system for TV shows, as well as easy access to "V-Chips" which allow parents to block out programming on their televisions.

World:
A bomb goes off in the business district of England, injuring more than 100 and killing 2. The Irish Republican Army claims responsibility, shattering a 17-month cease-fire between the IRA and England.

Horrifying mass graves are discovered in Bosnia as the search for victims of the war begins. Serb president Radovan Karadzic is blamed for most of the killings.

Sports:
Magic Johnson returns to the Lakers in the NBA. The star's positive Hall of Famer-to-be came back to provide veteran leadership to a young Lakers team. Many questioned the safety of the move, however, but no problems arose from his return.

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Year in Review

Sports:
In their first year after moving from Quebec, the Colorado Avalanche win the Stanley Cup Playoffs by sweeping the Florida Panthers.

Jackie Joyner Kersee sets the world record for the women's long jump.

Atlanta plays host to the 1996 Olympic games.

The event goes well until a bomb explodes in the TWA Flight 800 explodes over the Atlantic ocean.

The Chicago Bulls win their fourth NBA Championship in six years.

Boxer Oscar De La Hoya beats his idol Julio Cesar Chavez.

In their first year after moving from Quebec, the Colorado Avalanche win the Stanley Cup Playoffs.

Kerri Strug landed her vault with a sprained ankle but went on to win the gold medal.

A rash of forest fires devastates the western U.S.

And on the other side of the political spectrum, Jack Kemp makes a run for the presidency.

Michael Jackson gets married again, this time to Debbie Rowe who is reportedly pregnant with Jackson's child.

Sports:

Wollaeger receives complete renovation.

President Clinton sends more troops and bombers to the Persian Gulf region after signs of troop movement in Iraq.

Controversial RU-486 pill is approved by Food and Drug Administration after years of debate.

President Clinton orders missile attacks on strategic military locations in Iraq as Saddam Hussein shows signs of aggression.

First elections scheduled in Bosnia since the signing of the Dayton Peace accord last spring.

Rapper Tupac Shakur, often criticized for the violence in his lyrics, is gunned down on a Las Vegas street.

The 1996 Civil Trial begins.

Sports:

Mother Teresa was admitted to a Calcutta nursing home with heart problems and a fever.

CSP:

Administration discusses possible changes to alcohol policy (no decision has been made yet).

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Sports:

Teen sensation Tiger Woods joins the professional golf tour.

October

CSP:
Administration discusses possible changes to alcohol policy (no decision has been made yet).

National:
America's most eligible bachelor, John F. Kennedy Jr., marries Carolyn Bessette.

U.S. pushes to unseat United Nations Secretary General Boutros-Ghali.

Russia loses two spy satellites and a probe bound for Mars, marking the end of their dominance in space.

Bones discovered in Ethiopia date back more than 400,000 years.

November

World:

Yankees win the World Series.

December

CSP:

Read the rest of this issue!

National:

Chaske Stratus lands her vault with a sprained ankle to give the women's gymnastic team the gold medal.

A bomb at a U.S. military housing complex in Saudi Arabia kills 19 U.S. soldiers.

Controversial RU-486 pill is approved by Food and Drug Administration after years of debate.

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Read the rest of this issue!
Fine arts showcase: The not so invisible Stan Thompson

by Bill Sather

As I sat in my room my hands at my keyboard, struggling to not listen to the beautiful music being played (on a borrowed guitar) by this artist, I began to get an understanding of the presence and meaning music has in the life of Stan Thompson. "I was always interested in music. I played a lot of other instruments when I was younger but always wanted to play guitar." And in the eighth grade he got his wish; he began to play the instrument that so many people link with this Concordia Virtuoso.

Now, eight years later, he's still playing guitar and his musical field of view is expansive and simple at the same time. "What are my musical goals? That's something I've been struggling with recently. I know I want to be able to survive doing music. I want to write and perform. To continue my guitar studies." He said all of this while his fingers were dexterously picking out an arpeggio on the aforementioned borrowed guitar. "I want to write for different instruments. I want to be the best musician that I can." Quite simply he wants to get better.

But the instrument which has seen most of his writing has been his Gibson Epiphone. Two pieces that are almost Concordia standards are "Not So Invisible" and "Summer Rain" (an eight and half minute solo guitar piece). One might never guess that these songs had such different origins. "Not So Invisible" took seven months, Summer rain took a weekend. I was experimenting with a couple of things in open "g" that I picked up from Carmina Buana. During my lesson with [John] Buck I showed him what I was doing. He told me I could "tap" in that tuning as well. That weekend I played it till my fingers couldn't play any more. I probably played it five times a day, and I probably drove Schmitty (a.k.a. Tim Schmitt) nuts."

Outside of his solo work, Thompson is a part of the group Cross-eyed. "Cross-eyed" started with Joel Pakan, Kirk Shipley and Stan messing around with a couple of things in open "g" that I picked up from Carmina Buana. During my lesson with [John] Buck I showed him what I was doing. "Cross-eyed" started with Joel Pakan, Kirk Shipley and Stan messing around with a couple of things in open "g" that I picked up from Carmina Buana. During my lesson with [John] Buck I showed him what I was doing. He told me I could "tap" in that tuning as well. That weekend I played it till my fingers couldn't play any more. I probably played it five times a day, and I probably drove Schmitty (a.k.a. Tim Schmitt) nuts."

Stan is influenced by everything he hears, and that sticks out musically. "I really enjoy Beethoven and Mozart, Joe Satriani, Steve Vai, John Petrucci and Nuno Bettencort." When asked if he had anything else he would like included in this interview Stan replied, "I have a freezer full of frozen ice pops, and can make a mean chocolate chip pancake."

The holidays bring on new shows

by Heidi Heintz

The holiday festivities are upon us and along with "To sing the season" comes a wonderful line up of Christmas time theater. Here are a few of the events that are going on here in our own Twin City area.

Once again the Guthrie Theatre is putting on the traditional "A Christmas Carol." If you have never seen this play, you really should. It will put a warm feeling in your heart and make you happy to just be alive... "God bless us everyone!!" You can say that again.

Guthrie Theatre
357-2224

You have heard about this wonderful production, now go see it!

Penumbra Theatre
"Black Nativity"
290-1221

If you get inspired to sing along, just make sure that you have swallowed first. It's rude to sing and eat at the same time.

Chanhassen Dinner Theatre: Playhouse Theatre
"Once Again It's Christmas"
934-1525

This really has nothing to do with Christmas, but it's just too damn cool.

Historic State Theatre
"Stomp"
Feb. 5-16
$15, $20, $25 afternoon
$17, $23, $28 evening

"Remember, always bring your college ID if you decide to go through the Rush Line."

Have a holly, jolly Christmas and may God bless!!

Thy strong word: The gift above all gifts

by Marcel Kohlmeyer

"Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Dear friends, it is that time of the year when we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. This special time is called Advent. In Advent we look back to God's Word and His promise of a savior to save all from our sins and reflect on how He fulfills this promise in the birth of His Son, Jesus Christ, on Christmas day. God's most incredible gift is given this day: the gift of His Son to redeem all those who are lost and bring them back to God. This is what makes Christmas important and joyful.

Unfortunately, our culture tends to forget about this fact every year when Christmas comes around. Christmas has come to be seen as a time when we make our lists several months in advance in hope that Santa Claus will leave us our well-deserved presents under the tree on Christmas morning. In most stores, they start selling their Christmas merchandise as early as
Time to breathe

by Stephanie Gruhn

On November 15, I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Newsboys concert at Northrup Auditorium. Before the concert, I had only heard one of their songs, “I’m Not Ashamed” based on Romans 1:16, but I was impressed with all the performance had to offer.

One of the opening acts was Geoff Moore and the Distance. I had never heard them before. Wow. Anyone who has heard their song “Home run” or “Why Should the Devil Have All the Good Music” knows what I experienced. But hearing a group live is nothing like listening to a CD. Unfortunately, I have yet to purchase a GM&D album.

Newsboys is on their “Take Me to Your Leader” tour to celebrate their latest CD of the same title. To start the concert, they didn’t just walk onto the stage, but they were lowered onto three round platforms while a tune from GM&D album was played in the background. After the first few songs, the platforms were tipped vertically to serve as projection screens for video clips during the performance.

The show was not simply visual, however. Newsboys is one of the most talented groups I have ever had the opportunity to listen to. They started the concert with “I’m Not Ashamed.” They played several from old albums, but most of the songs were off of “Take Me to Your Leader.” The title song was wonderful, and I found myself asking those around me to let me in on the lyrics so I could sing along. The same thing occurred during “Breakfast,” a song that proclaims, “When the big one finds you/may this song remind you/that they don’t serve breakfast in hell.”

Of all of the songs, however, I was most impressed by “Breathe.” The first verse starts out asking those around me to let me in on the lyrics so I could sing along. The same thing occurred during “Breakfast,” a song that proclaims, “When the big one finds you/may this song remind you/that they don’t serve breakfast in hell.”

As Newsboys stepped back onto the once again horizontal platforms, a banner dropped reading “Live Long and Prosper.” People raised their hands again, but this time in the Spock gesture with third and fourth fingers separated.

The entire concert was an experience I will never forget. I don’t get to attend a lot of concerts, and this was the first Christian concert I have ever had the opportunity to listen to. Newsboys stepped back onto the once again horizontal platforms, a banner dropped reading “Live Long and Prosper.” People raised their hands again, but this time in the Spock gesture.

Hollywood hits with agent Carl Bressler

by Carrah Rosine

Starting off in law school, Carl Bressler decided that law wasn’t what he wanted in life, so in 1980, he began acting. Because acting jobs were scarce and Carl was in dire need of a job, he later became an agent. Soon after becoming an assistant with Montana Artists, he was moved up to associate status. By 1989, he was a partner of the agency. Now as President of Montana Artists, Carl Bressler represents over 100 below-the-line people. Bressler’s job is to “procure work for his clients and negotiate deals for his clients.” Since below-the-line may be a new term for many of you, I’ll explain. Above-the-line people (actors, directors and the like) are paid residuals. Camerapeople, producers, art directors, editors, etc., or below-the-line people, are paid a one time fee.

Although they are paid a one time fee, Mr. Bressler mentioned wages were a positive aspect to his job. For him, it means his clients are guaranteed a weekly paycheck. Commercial camerapersons are paid $3,000-$5,500 for a 16 hour shoot. An editor can make between $2,500-$4,000 for one week of editing or $12,000 for a full length feature film. These people don’t need to worry about the success of the production because they are paid regardless. However, there work must be professional enough that it attracts the attention of a future employer.

“Film is a medium for our expression,” according to Carl Bressler. “You have to know how to get something perceived through your work. You have to be creative.” Bressler said that four qualities are imperative to breaking into the film business. First, you have to have a willingness to do everything. Being an active listener and taking initiative are also important. When looking for an agent, Carl added, “You have to be able to articulate who you are and where you want to go.” The final essential quality is intuitiveness.

Intuition is also crucial for an agent. “If you don’t have the sense, you won’t go anywhere,” Bressler stated. “Everyone is aggressive, and it’s not what you do that counts. It’s how people view what you do.” As a final comment, Bressler said, “Your word in the film business is everything. If you can be depended on, you’re important.”
Sports

Comets show signs of life as Getzlaff captures his 100th collegiate victory

by Jon Krueger

Last Wednesday afternoon, the Concordia Men's Basketball team traveled to the Target Center for a matinee matchup against Crown College. The players had two objectives on their minds. Number one, beat Crown handily; and number two, win one for Coach Getzlaff to secure his 100th collegiate victory.

The Comets were successful on both, and as a result, we can congratulate Coach Getzlaff, but the players also deserve a round of applause. The victory over Crown was very impressive, and can easily be considered their best outing so far this season.

Jarvis Archibald had a phenomenal game, going 11-13 from the field to end with 22 points, and had a good day on the boards as well.

"Jarvis is very hard to stop when he is playing aggressively," says Getzlaff.

"When he does a good job of selecting shots, he is very tough to beat."

On the season to this point, Archibald is averaging 16.6 ppg and is pulling down an average of 8.1 rebounds per game.

Keeping those numbers in mind, Jarvis should have no trouble at all capturing a spot on the Concordia 1996 point club.

Jeff Chamberlain is averaging 11.6 ppg, 8 boards a game, and leads the team with 45 assists.

Myron Taylor is beginning to come around at the point, creating opportunities for teammates by driving the lane. Myron is averaging 12.1 ppg, with a total of 45 assists.

Little things are starting to add up, converting into victories and promise for the rest of the season.

The weekend previous to the Crown win, the Comets traveled to Davenport, Iowa, for the St. Ambrose Classic. On Friday, December 6, the Comets were defeated by St. Ambrose, 89-83. St. Ambrose is ranked in Sports Illustrated’s NAIA Division II Top 25. After only being down by two with 18 seconds left, St. Ambrose ended up winning by six.

"The guys played hard and made a great effort, but we came up just short," says Getzlaff, referring to the St. Ambrose loss.

The next day versus Mt. St. Clare, the men came up with their first victory of the season, despite playing without Archibald who was ineligible for one game due to a grade technicality.

Chamberlain stepped it up huge, really asserting himself offensively in Archibald absence," said Getzlaff.

Jeff had 16 points and ten rebounds in the Mt. St. Clare game, proving that he still possesses the explosiveness as the Chamberlain we knew and loved in previous seasons.

Rick Sundberg had a strong performance with 12 boards, and Myron Taylor added 21 points. When all was said and done, The Comets came away with a 79-64 victory, showing signs of things to come for 1997.

The Comets have a tough road game this Saturday, December 21, at St. Thomas before their trip to Hawaii over Christmas break. Good luck, guys.

Lady Comets hooping it up

by Mary Stohlmann

With nine games down, the Lady Comets push on despite their 1-8 record. With roughly 20 games remaining, the Lady Comets have already adjusted to changes and have overcoming numerous challenges. The biggest change for the Comet Club is head coach, David Meyer, and his assistant.

Assisting Coach Meyer is Haneefah McNair, also known as "Trigger" because she loves to shoot. "Trigger" graduated from Southwest State with an all-conference in basketball. This is Meyer's first year coaching college basketball and he is handling the pressure effectively, reaching to new heights for the Lady Comets with enthusiasm and determination. Eye witnesses have even spotted him starting the bench in "Defense" cheats to ignite energy both on and off the court.

Adversity has also come to the Comets. The IR (Injury Reserve) list is gradually increasing and taking team members down but not out. Instead, these players are overcoming the obstacles:

- Battling to play their best basketball with motivated hearts and beat-up bodies. Sore backs, the common cold and flu, and even a case of mono are some ailments the Concordia Comets are experiencing. An unusual injury has taken guard Lynn Peterson out of the game. The screw in her foot has broken, requiring surgery on Monday, December 16. Lynn will be unable to play for at least six weeks following the surgery, if not the remaining season. Through it all, the Comets have not given up hope or heart; they just work harder.

- Hustle, enthusiasm, teamwork, talent, and character are the main components of the Lady Comets. The one and only fourth year player and Captain, Naomi Stohlmann (aka "chump") commands the Comets on the court to keep them hustling and working together. The Captain comments, "We have a lot of talent, although we haven't reached our potential; we need to work on the little things to put us over the edge and to come out on top. No one can hold us back; we have skills and love the game." Captain Naomi Stohlmann then concludes, "It isn't over until the fat lady sings."

- Combining with the Comets' skills and love, the team consists of vivacious energy, awesome attitudes, and numerous nicknames. The "rubber-band" that keeps the team together is Jessie Kueger, Brenda "doo" Gieselharn, Anna Klemm, also known as "Tazmo," the "monkey" Lynn Peterson, featuring Denise Ishle as "rookie sensation," the "mousse" Erin Mantheuven, Amy Robin as "Big Red," post-secondary student Caroline "concallister" Stowe. Heather Griffin, Chris Chauker and Liz Geinl make up the rest of the cast for the Comet Hoops.

Highlights of the season will include traveling to San Diego December 27-31 and the Concordia Invitational at River Forest on January 24-25. Upcoming home games are January 3 vs. Beloit, IL and Saturday, January 4 against Peru State, NE. If you are looking for some great evening entertainment and fast-paced basketball, swing by the Gangelhoff Center. Come fly with the Comets all the way to the top!
Sandcork re-writes the meaning of “team player”

by Jon Krueger

“I don’t do drugs.”

Not exactly how I expected to be greet-ed at the door, but knowing Rocky, nothing would surprise me. This guy has a sense of humor that would make Sienfeld wet his pants.

After spending some time pulling him away from his afternoon cartoons, Robert Richard Sandcork and I discussed sports, life, and Jesus Christ.

This 6’, 185lb senior guard for the Comet basketball team has also completed his football career this year as a second year starter as outside linebacker for the Comets.

Rocky (who got his name because he “came out swinging” when he was born) played his first two years of football at Illinois Benedictine and Central Missouri State, respectively, before transferring to Concordia before his junior year.

After the Comet’s went 0-8-1 in Sandcork’s first season in blue and gold, Rocky and the rest of the Comets realized that a lot more than the color of their uniforms needed to change. Through hours of hard work and dedication, the Comet Football team ended the season with a much improved mark of 4-5.

According to Rocky, the improvement can be credited in a number of places. Good recruiting and excellent leadership by Assistant Coach O’Brien and the rest of the coaches tops the list, followed by the response of the players this year.

“We began to play with unity and respect for the team.” Adds Sandcork, “It still wasn’t a winning season, but it was a great turn-around.”

As a senior, Rocky had 38 tackles, 8th best on the team, and an interception added some color to his career stats.

On the court, Coach Getzlaff considers Rocky as the bench captain, a shoe that not just any run-of-the-mill title-fighter can fill. It is his dedication to the sport and to the coach and a teacher in a Lutheran high school. He plans to have about fourteen kids someday, and is pretty sure that he’s got the girl picked out... Deanna, his girlfriend for as long as we all can remember, is most likely less than enthusiastic about his projected head count, but her support of his man is evident.

“Rocky is intensely dedicated to sports, and you can see the same dedication in his everyday life.” Says Deanna, “His love for Jesus can be seen in the way he approaches the game and life in general.”

Basketball Schedules

Comets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Game Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 21</td>
<td>at St. Thomas</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 3</td>
<td>Home vs. Beloit, IL</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>Home vs. Peru St., NE</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 11</td>
<td>at St. Catherine</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>vs. Northwestern at Target Center</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Home vs. St. Scholastica</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 22</td>
<td>at Martin Luther</td>
<td>5:50 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>Concordia Invitational, River Forest, IL</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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Lady Comets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Game Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 5</td>
<td>Back in Town</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 6</td>
<td>Home vs. Peru St., NE</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 7</td>
<td>at St. Catherine</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 11</td>
<td>vs. Northwestern at Target Center</td>
<td>1:15 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15</td>
<td>Home vs. St. Scholastica</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>at Northland, WI</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 22</td>
<td>at Martin Luther</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 24</td>
<td>Concordia Invitational, River Forest, IL</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Around the horn

Inside the Concordia Sports Program

Football
* Concordia players receiving UMAC All-Conference: Lucas Woodford, Chris Short, Denmond Walker, John Avery, and Eric Schutte.
* Concordia players receiving UMAC Second Team All-Conference honors: Andy Bicek, Joe Waalk, Matt Woodford, Chris Henning.
* Concordia players receiving UMAC Honorable Mention: Jessey Ferbeyre, Paul Drogan, Todd Zuehlke.
* Mart and Lucas Woodford ended the season with 12 sacks each, enough to share the conference sack title.

Basketball
* Head Men’s Coach Dennis Getzlaff reached a landmark in his career with his 100th victory as Comet head coach with a win over Crown College in the Target Center on January 10th.
  * Senior forward Jeff Chamberlain scored 11 points in Concordia’s win over Crown College, bringing his career total to 1178, just 165 shy of Concordia’s all-time scoring record.
  * Senior center Jarvis Archibald scored 12 points against Crown College and is just 223 points short of joining Concordia’s 1000 point club.

They Said It
* Crown College’s quarterback and point guard Todd Nicholas, at the Target Center game, to Concordia Head Football Coach Tom Cross, in response to the Comet’s win over Northwestern in the Metrodome on October 25th.
  "I can’t figure out why you put #9 back in after the young guy (Andy Berreth) threw that touchdown pass."
It seemed like holy land and a holy moment when we seventeen pilgrims from Concordia gathered in Bethlehem at the site commemorating Jesus' birth. We read the familiar Christmas story but the words carried more meaning. "Joseph and Mary went...to Bethlehem. While they were there...Mary gave birth to her first born son...and laid him in a manger. In the fields nearby, shepherds watched...The heavenly host praised God saying, 'Glory to God...Peace on earth.'" Then we joined our voices and spirits singing "Silent Night, Holy Night," "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and other words of wonder, love and praise.

It was a great privilege and wonderful experience to travel to Bethlehem with Concordia's pilgrims but we all can share the same spiritual blessing here on campus. May these days before Christmas vacation bring deeper spiritual reflection on the miracle of God's love, the power of community-forming human love, and individual self worth embraced with knowledge, grace, purpose and hope. I hope that the days at Concordia before vacation are full of joy. May the vacation weeks, like a Christmas stocking, be full of the toys of fun and rest. May our return in the New Year bounce like Santa down the chimney—eager to share gifts of love and create moments of joy.

God bless you. 

President Bob Hoist

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Merry Christmas and God Bless!