Revamped Union Welcomes Students

Welcome to Concordia University or, for you returning students, welcome back! I love the excitement of students arriving on campus. There is energy in the air. New students bring strong anticipation tinged with some regret at leaving familiar circumstances and some uncertainty at facing the new and the unknown. Returning students bring excitement of renewing old friendships, making new friends and picking up on academic challenges. I love to hear the stories.


Each student has a unique story to tell or an adventure to share. Like reading a complex book, our year can be an intriguing opportunity to weave the themes of our lives together here at Concordia.

By Heather Sandberg

Welcome (or welcome back) to all new and returning students. During the summer many people were working behind the scenes to get ready for your return. The noticeable changes were made to the Student Union and include the following:

- A new edition of the Student Union has extended foodservice hours.
- A new gas fireplace replaced the previous wood-burning fireplace.
- A second big screen TV was donated for Tier one.
- Tier two is now the main multipurpose area, open for studying, small group meetings, and larger gatherings.
- Tier three is our very own “Sports Zone” with pool tables and video games along with a second big screen TV.

New board games have been purchased and can be checked out at the desk. The school has also purchased new, colorful plates for the dining hall. The Food Committee, made up of students, has two standing goals: to improve the quality of the menu selections provided by Marriott, and to improve the aesthetic qualities of the dining hall and student union. Purchasing new colorful plates helps fulfill the latter goal by enabling students to feel like they are eating at home rather than at a sterile institution.

One of my goals as Student Body President is to increase each student’s knowledge of the Student Senate. Therefore, we have placed a glass bulletin board case in the tunnel that includes pictures of all Senate and Concordia Activities Board (CAB) members, as well as relevant information, such as the meetings of the full Senate meetings. My hope is that if you have a question or idea you will be able to put a face with a name, in addition to keeping current with the decisions made by the people you voted to represent you.

These are just a few of the improvements that have been made in addition to brand new laptops, landscaping and respective residence hall improvements.

By Jason Moran

As I sit on board the airplane ready to head to Detroit for my uncle’s wedding, I listen to the tunes of Woody Guthrie, Alton’s Ant Farm, Whiskeytown and The Posies on my Concordia-iused laptop. The new model has graded Concordia’s campus and there will be much rejoicing in the halls of the classroom building.

The most important enhancement of this wonderful upgrade is noticeable when you first touch the computer. It weighs about half as much as the previous model. Chiropractors across the Twin Cities can expect less money from us as we float through the halls with our shallower laptops. There are many other enhancements other than weight worth noting on this mechanical textbook. To many people’s chagrin, they will find no standard 3.5 floppy drive incorporated in the laptop. Fear not my fellow students, in its place rests the future of data storage: the CD burner. The floppy drive is going the same direction of 8-track tapes, destined for church rummage sales. But what does this mean for the students? Instead of backing up to the network standard of 20 Megabytes, we can burn our own CD backs up of everything: MP3s, documents, movies and even fully playable audio CDs with the only limit being our cash flow for blank media. For those who are technologically squeamish or Luddites who are reading this article don’t be scared about the jump in technology. If you still purchase a floppy drive from your bookstore or even check one out from the Audio-Visual reserves at the helpdesk. This laptop also features the final bug-fix for Microsoft Windows 95 called Windows ME. The ME stands for Millennium Edition. The ME comes with the latest and greatest in audio capabilities, Windows Media Player and Windows Movie Maker, as well as preventing fewer bugs and crashes from happening. Now you can create your own movies with the assistance of a USB-capable video camera and listen to your MP3s without downloading any new software for the system. There is a whole new world of homework diversion available to the masses of Concordians searching for something “better” to do on a weeknight. So grasp your computer and hold on tight because speed has increased, technology has changed and delight will follow.

Concordia University

Theme of the Year: Blessed Are You

By Catherine Hyde

Welcome (or welcome back) to Concordia University. Our year can be an intriguing opportunity to weave the themes of our lives together here at Concordia. The faculty and staff selected a slogan and a book to focus and reward and enrich.

“Blessed Are You” provides a Biblical motto. It calls us to praise God and to count our blessings. In addition, faculty and staff joined in reading Catherine Hyde's book, "Pay It Forward.

The theme of the book is a child’s plan. Rather than “pay back” a favor, “-paying it forward” means getting ahead by deliberately helping others and encouraging others to do the same. Do some unexpected, significant good for three people and ask them to do something similar for three more people. The exponential explosion of paying forward kindness would change the world. A utopian vision? A childish dream? A calculating commitment to “pay forward” help and care for each other, the story of Concordia will reward and enrich.

Again, welcome or welcome to Concordia University or, for you returning students, welcome back!
prostitutes, café, cabarets, race- 
courses, and of course, ballet 
dancers. What do all these 
subjects have in common? Edgar 
Degas, the renowned French 
Impressionist of the 1800s, 
had painted them all, and a special 
exhibit at the Minneapolis 
Institute of Arts offers an oppor-
tunity to view these classic 
works. This show which closes 
Sept. 9, is the Upper Midwest’s 
first major exhibition of work by 
Degas. Titled “Degas & 
America: The Early Collectors” 
it is a collection of 75 different 
works that have been 
bring together from various art 
institutes and private collections 
from across the United States. 
Although Degas, who was the 
only French Impressionist to visit 
the United States, was not imme-
diately popular in America, he 
slowly gained acceptance and is 
now one of the foremost French 
Impressionist artists in America. 
His subjects, usually 
commonplace people and events, were 
first considered crude and the 
rich, vibrant colors that he 
thought gauche. Gradually, 
however, his works gathered a 
dedicated following. The New 
York heroine, Louise Havemeyer, 
the second major collection of Degas and a British 
art critic writing for The 
daily Telegraph in 1910 said, “Anybody who wishes 
to make a serious study of French 
painting must cross the Atlantic...One can get to know 
Degas from all sides of America.”

“Three Dancers in Yellow 
Skirts,” a painting with rich, 
deep colors, starts the display off mag-
ificantly. Another must-see 
work by the “painter of dancers” is 
the sculpture “Little Dancer of 
Fourteen Years.” In his attempt 
to bring realism to this sculpture, 
Degas used a real cloth tutu and 
hair ribbon on 14-year-old 
girl sculptre. Although critics 
disapproved of the work when it 
was first put on exhibit in 1851, it is now one of 
the most sought-after Degas sculptures. 
You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown, Says Saint Paul — All Over Town in 102 Ways

The statues were designed by local artists, have been built to honor Charles M. 
Schulz, the creator of the famous 
comic strip, Peanuts. Mr. Schulz 
crossed the lovable Charlie 
Brown, as well as Snoopy, and 
the rest of the youthful 
comic strip, Charlie Brown 
and others in City Hall decided to continue 
the fun in the form of Charlie 
Brown. In his letter to all who 
participate in the hunt, Coleman 
states, “We’ve had so much fun 
this year we are bringing the 
magic back in the form of Charlie 
Brown... This event is about bringing people together to 
hold a show that brings joy to 
our lives and to celebrate the City 
of St. Paul.”

You’re a good man, Charlie Brown! And so are all 102 sta-

tues of you displayed throughout 
the city of St. Paul. The statues, which were 
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Whether an adult or child, 
many people have been hunting 
for the Charlie Brown. Jessica 
Stark, 16, says, “It’s fun to walk 
around St. Paul looking for the 
statues. It’s a good way for me 
to get to know our capital city a lit-
tle better.” It’s also a good way 
to spend some time outside—and 
since this beautiful, warm 
weather doesn’t last too long 
in Minnesota, NOW is the time to 
be out! Families, young couples, 
or friends can often be seen 
looking around for the 
statues. It’s a fun way to 
get the community to take 
notice of the statues.

The Degas exhibit is an enjoy-
able experience even for those 
who are not art enthusiasts. “Not 
only did I see the actual paintings 
by Degas, I also was able to learn 
somuch more about him as a person," said museum visitor 
David Smith, 24. “Because of that, the paintings mean more to me...I glad I went.”

Tickets for the exhibit are $10 and you must reserve a time to enter the exhibit. Tickets can be purchased in the museum lobby on 3rd Ave. S. or through Ticketmaster. For more informa-
tion on the Minneapolis Institute of Art visit the website, or call (612)625-2311. Museum hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday: 10a.m.-6p.m.; 
Thursday and Friday: 10a.m.-8p.m.; Sunday: Noon-5p.m.; Monday: closed. To get to the museum from downtown, take I- 
94 west to the Lyndale/Kenyon 
exit (231B), and take Lyndale 
Avenue West to 23rd St. turn left on 24th St. south to 3rd Ave. S. Parking is easily available.

See the barbershop Charlie Brown, the Tin 
man Charlie Brown, the pajama-clad Charlie Brown 
and others in City Hall decided to continue 
the fun in the form of Charlie 
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CSP Designer Helps Charlie Brown

Alicia Welt, designer in Theatre Arts, had the opportunity to put 
her skills as a costumer to work 
recently for Twin Cities Public 
Television (TPT2). The station is 
participating in the city of St. Paul’s popular “Peanuts” promo-

TPT2’s Charlie Brown features Charlie Brown in a 
baseball hat and photographer’s vest, holding 
a video camera, which will be looked up to monitor whether passersby 
maintain proper course on camera. TPT2 contacted Welt, who also runs The 
Degas, is a rare chance and one 
that people should certainly 
take the chance to view this 
collection. “There are only two or 
three pieces of work by Degas in the 
Twin Cities area, so we’re going 
to see them all together in this 
exhibit,” said exhibit visitor 
Jeanine Roe, 27. “Degas is one 
of my favorite artists, and this 
display is incredible.”

Kathleen Mansfield, 21, a art graduate from 
McCalaster College in St. 
Paul said that she has seen the 
Degas paintings in books in the 
past and over again. “It’s a real treat 
that this display is here so I can 
see and enjoy the paintings in per-
son,” Mansfield said.

Because the exhibit has been so popular, some days have been sold out. “It’s a wonderful exhibit 
and has been well-received 
from the community,” said an 
MIA staff member. “Not only has the community enjoyed it, 
but we have also certainly had 
many visitors from out of state, 
who have come in and seen and 
the display.” The Degas exhibit is an enjoy-
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Ginko’s Good Music Beckons Students

By Jason Moran

Welcome home to the Twin Cities one and all! Whether you are an incoming freshman, a transfer student, or an old-timer like myself, we have much to talk about and such a small amount of space to accomplish it all in. Today I take laptop in hand to discuss the most important thing about your education in the Twin Cities: Local Music.

Local music surrounds Concordia and makes the Twin Cities one of the most vibrant cities in the United States today. There are countless all-ages venues near our campus just begging for an audience.

Today I would like to examine a venue within walking distance of our campus: Ginko Coffee House. Ginko features great local music, a collection of local art, and some quality toys for all ages.

Ginko is located at the corner of Snelling and Matthew Avenue. If you desire to travel by foot, you simply walk to Snelling downtown from Concordia Avenue. From Campus, take a Right on Snelling and walk about 3 miles. It will be on the right side of Snelling.

Ginko has hosted local music for years, and many major bands travel to this coffee house for shows throughout the year. We are lucky to be beginning our first semester at Concordia in time to visit Ginko’s to hear Micah Taylor and Friends play in the first week of the semester, before homework gets the best of us.

Micah Taylor weaves a lyrical web of powerful acoustic guitar melodies, melded with strong vocals. He usually brings along a rag-tag group of friends to play along and do some impromptu music. In the past his musicians have included Rachael Kurtz, Nate Howe, Jonathan Friedman, and yours truly. Micah is guaranteed to blow us all away with songs off his forthcoming album.

The Micah Taylor show at Ginko is on August 31, from 9-11 p.m. So gather up a group of friends, head to Ginko and get to be entertained. I will be there in the front row, singing along and chatting to some quality music.

Ginko Coffeehouse
721 Snelling Ave. N
St. Paul, MN
(651)645-2467

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE PRESENTS
WELCOME WEEK AUGUST 2001

TUESDAY, 28TH
Activities on the Knoll 3:30pm
FACULTY/STAFF HOSTS NIGHT 6:30 – Meet at Beutow
BBW’S (Buffalo Wild Wings) NIGHT @ ROSEVILLE

WEDNESDAY, 29TH
Corn Festival in GC at noon
ONE START @ GC 1pm
FESTIVAL OF BEGINNINGS
Activities on the Knoll 3:30pm
Festival of Beginnings service 7:30pm – Beutow
FISH 9pm

THURSDAY, 30TH
KARAOKE NIGHT in the UNION 8-12pm

FRIDAY, 31ST
S.T.A.G.E. DANCE
CSP @ the MN STATE FAIR

SATURDAY, 1ST
Tailgate before the game (parking lot) 10am until game
GOLDENBEAR FOOTBALL 1pm
ULTIMATE FRISBEE ON THE KNOLL 3:30pm

SUNDAY, 2ND
SUNDAE SUNDAY

MONDAY, 3RD
GAME NIGHT in the UNION

The SWORD • 3
Student Senate President Advises,
Get Involved

By Heather Sandberg

Welcome to Concordia — or welcome back! It is with great excitement and anticipation that I greet you as we embark upon the 2001-2002 academic year. Before I get to my vision for this year, and my challenge to each of you, I would like to share with you a story about a friend of mine who attended Concordia.

As freshmen we both lived on the same floor in Wellingr. As the school year began, we each started to make friends and would often chat with each other because of some family ties. I remember feeling sad for her because I was having a great time at Concordia and really felt a part of the school. After several talks, I challenged her to give CSP a second chance, and this time, to really make an effort to get involved in some activity. She had stayed in her dorm room way too long.

As we both begin our senior year, I am pleased to say that she still attends Concordia because she went out on a limb and became involved in a couple of extra-curricular activities. I know I personally have been blessed by her presence on campus and am thankful that the Lord guided her to stay at CSP.

Therefore, for the 2001-2002 school year I would like to present a challenge to each one of you: immerse yourself in Concordia. My vision is that this year each one of us would step out of our boundaries not only to meet someone new, but also to try a new activity. Being connected with other people is the single most important thing you can do to transform your college experience. I am reminded of Helen Keller's words, "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

If you need suggestions for how to become involved, here are a few suggestions:

- Join one of nearly 20 Student Senate-sponsored clubs or organizations
- Write for the Sword
- Try out for a theater production
- Join an athletic team
- Volunteer on campus or in the surrounding community

Become involved in Student Senate (Representative elections will be held in late September) AND MANY, MANY more...

Who are Beringer, Borden, Corneliusen, Croft, Dougherty, Ebba, Fink, Griffith, Herbst, Herkenhoff, Hicks, Hill, Jones, Kopischke, Langemo, LeFevere, Markshausen, Meints, MaxinerMills, Olen, Puckett, Ross, Schutte, Severson, Sila, Simmer, Swanson, Troye, Vasterling, Wamsley, Wander, Wolfgram, Yang, Gort, Jochum, Johnson, Johnson, Krueger, Robinson and Warren. These are the new members of the Concordia University faculty and staff. Look for profiles on some of them in succeeding issues of the Sword. Send us ideas for other stories.

The Sword is still accepting applications for the following positions:

- Photography Editor
- Advertising Representatives
- Writers
- Photographers

Add to your schedule a 1 credit course ENG222 Journalism Practicum

Please send all letters to Big Cat to davisj1@proverbs.csp.edu

Look for the new Sword office in the Writing Center