Students may have noticed phones of a familiar face added to the wall of Concordia. This face belongs to none other than Rosemary (Rosie) Braun, who has received February's award for "Positive Attitude" from the new Moments of Excellence program. Developed by the Staff Recognition Task Force, the purpose of this group is to recognize staff members who possess certain qualities and provide an enriching environment for everyone involved in Concordia. Each month, a new theme will be presented encouraging students, staff and faculty to participate by nominating as many candidates as they feel meet the criteria for the designated award. By accepting the honor, the staff member will receive either an eight-hour or a four-hour day off, depending on full-time or part-time status, which can then be used in the next calendar month.

Braun is a 19-year member of the Concordia staff and is currently employed as the Director of Academic Advising, as well as working as the advisor for PSEO coordination. In a recent newsletter sent to faculty and staff, Braun was described as "upbeat, with an encouraging approach to colleagues and students, always going the extra mile." Her work includes assisting students in determining and organizing their majors and classes, as well as motivating and working with those individuals placed on academic probation.

Braun's photograph, located in the tunnel, shows her displaying a "Fear Not!" cup from this year's Concordia theme. She explained that she chooses to look at life as being half-full rather than half-empty, which explains why she decided on this particular pose. In a recent conversation, she expressed her honor over being chosen, as well as the humility she says the award brings. By being nominated, Braun feels she has more support and encouragement to continue to do well in whatever she does and always keep a positive attitude and smile, because sometimes, "that is all someone really needs."

Make sure to stop in and congratulate Braun on her wonderful accomplishments. Also, remember to keep your eyes open for next month's "Moments of Excellence" recipients.

**Some things students should know about Perfigo:**

1. When you log into your computer, you will be prompted with another login screen which will scan your computer for viruses and patches and register your computer on the network. This will not collect any personal or private information from your computer.
2. Perfigo will affect both the wired and wireless networks. This means that there is no way onto Concordia's network other than through Perfigo.
3. Most importantly, Perfigo is not being implemented to be an invasion of your privacy, but to increase network security and stability for all network users. Our compromised computer can shut down a whole network if left unchecked. Perfigo prevents this from occurring at Concordia.

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**SNEAK PEEK**

Snowcoming Hits Concordia by Storm

M's Answers: How Do I Know I'm Ready?

Concordia's Lenten Rituals

CSP Speaks: "What did you give up for Lent?"

Science Museum Invites Visitors to Big Deeper

Chicken Caption Contest!

Softball Posed for Strong Season

Women's Basketball Heating Up

Basketball Team Set to Dominate

Sells Propels Forward to New Roll
Snowcoming Hits Concordia by Storm

By Erin Julie Thompson

Because the wintry weather can have the diurnal, dull, dreary effect on students, faculty and staff, Concordia Activities Board (CAB) and the Student Alumni Council (SAC) merged for the second annual Snocoming festivities, hitting Concordia University by storm. The week of Feb. 7-11 was deemed Snowcoming Week, offering a variety of activities for students, faculty and staff to participate in. Including Snow Football on Monday night, Ice Skating on Tuesday night, the Surge Run on Wednesday night, Comedy Sports on Thursday night, and ending with a hoople of fun, the Musquecando Ball on Friday night.

Jen Jaworski, the Student Union Director and Coordinator for Student Activities summed up the week by saying, "Snowcoming is turning into a great tradition for Concordia students to get involved with. CAB and the Student Alumni Council have done a fantastic job of putting together a week of fun events for students." Many students agree. The Surge Run was one of the highlights of the week. Drawing an enormous crowd of about sixty people, 20 students ran their communication skills, trying to defeat the icy conditions, frigid temperatures, and the urge to not surge in this annual snow race. These "surgers" certainly had some interesting experiences, including one valiant, but misfortunate athlete, Aaron Cawthorn. Here is his story: "The surge run was a blast-cold, slippery, fun; what more could you ask for? It was a little taste of the spring. I tried to jump over the bush in front of Luther hall and this attempt was a failure. I ended up jumping and landing on top of the bush, scraping up my whole side and getting a stick impaled a half inch into my knee. That was the sharpest, toughest bush I have ever met in my life. I need about a year to recover for next year's race. Bring it on next year, I will define my title to the death, even if I have to have a reenounter with that bush again." With that determination and a little bit of practice dodging bushes, Cawthorn may take that winning title away next year.

On Thursday at Comedy Sports, Concordia students encountered more than just athletes, but ACTletes. What is an actlete, one may ask? According to Mike, the Comedy Sports referee at Thursday's show in the Buetow Auditorium, it is "a mix of an athlete and an actor." Comedy Sports, an improv comedy group that operates all over the country, sent a team of actletes to Concordia's campus. Not only did these "professionals" entertain students, but several members of the audience got to participate in this interactive comedy, either going up on stage or offering suggestions for the pros. Kat Schaefer said, "Comedy Sports was really fun! It made me laugh a lot. I was a really nice break towards the end of the week. Dan Gillison [an audience volunteer] did a great job too! I'm impressed with the talent individuals have to be able to do improv!" Steven Namany agrees, "It was nice to get together with our friends in the middle of the week and laugh our heads off!"

Anita Perez Ferguson Visits Concordia

By Eric Cannedy

Anita Perez Ferguson, Woodrow Wilson Visiting scholar, visited Concordia University during the second week of February to meet with students and lead discussion in selected classes. Among the issues Perez Ferguson came to discuss were the changing face of American politics, the intersection of Wall Street and Main Street, building leadership skills, inter-generational solutions for the aging society, public speaking, grassroots development and organizing, crisis management and media relations.

Perez Ferguson is a professional speaker, an experienced trainer and a published author in the areas of leadership, diversity and public policy. In 2000, she was appointed by President Clinton to Chair the Inter-American Foundation, and the U.S. Senate confirmed her appointment. She has served as the President of the National Women's Political Caucus and earlier as the White House Liaison to the US Department of Transportation. Currently, Perez Ferguson serves on the Board of Directors for the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

On Thursday, Feb. 11, Perez Ferguson visited Prof. Marilyn Reineck's Family Communication and Public Speaking courses. Reineck had each student come prepared with a question to ask Ms. Perez Ferguson relating to the topic of their respective courses. In the Family Communication course, the discussion centered on "bridging the gap" between generations in today's society. Perez Ferguson spoke on how to relate to younger generations, as well as the importance of listening to those around you.

Rachel Felderman, a student in Reineck's Family Communication class, said that "Her accomplishments were astounding... After a short conversation with her I realized that she enjoys and gains fulfillment from what she does." Felderman also commented on the content of Perez Ferguson's class discussion: "A good tip for life: that Anita had was to gain the communication skills needed for life, then add the knowledge and experiences of other scholarly goals. Having the ability to communicate will drastically help you achieve other goals in life." Concordia students enjoyed Perez Ferguson's visit, and they experienced discussions that helped to broaden their understanding of leadership and the United States.
Dear M,
I have a rather serious question, and I need advice. My significant other has been talking about sex a lot lately, and I know that I need to make a decision about it soon. I just don't know if I'm ready. How do you decide if you're ready?

In Need Ed

Dear In Need,

First of all, I applaud you for coming forth with this question. Sex is something that many people do not talk about seriously. Also, I am encouraged by the fact that you are trying to make the decision before something happens. It is easier to make a decision about boundaries before anything happens; then you are able to stick with those boundaries later.

Today, our culture says that sex is something that is O.K. in any situation and that it is something with no consequences. In actuality, both of these are often untrue. A person must be emotionally and physically ready to have sex. In Genesis, God outlines the sequence of events—marriage, leaving father and mother, and sex—purposefully. Sex within a marriage, a union made between two people before God, is the safest bet. Today, our culture says that sex is 'something that is O.K. with no consequences.'

Emotionally, a person must be ready. In Genesis, God says, "Let the man leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two shall become one flesh." The partner must feel an emotional attachment that can partner may feel toward the other, while the other partner may feel no emotional attachment. You need to decide whether or not you are ready to have sex with someone who may or may not be with you forever.

An important thing to remember about sex is that there are often-consequences that outweigh the enjoyment of having sex before you are married. You must be physically prepared; being physically prepared means having some sort of contraceptive. However, with most contraceptives there is still the chance of pregnancy and sexually-transmitted diseases (STDs). Are you prepared for pregnancy? Are you going to protect yourself against STDs? If you cannot answer either of these questions, then you are definitely not ready for sex. Outside of marriage, sex is a scary thing with no guarantees. You have to decide if the person with whom you would like to have sex with is someone that you really care about and trust. Is he or she emotionally and physically prepared?

Talk about these issues and questions with your partner. If you cannot talk about sex in a mature way with your partner, then you are probably not ready. Sex should always be a mutual decision between two people for the right reasons.

This answer is in no way a thorough checklist about the questions to ask or consequences to consider before having sex. For more help, advice, and information check out http://www.scareteen.com/sexuality/ readiness.html.

All decisions have consequences,
M

Ward Churchill Owes Americans an Apology

By Matt Griepentrog and Jake Borkhus

A picture of the American flag in Ward Churchill's office is surrounded by the words "USA Oppression Racism War Ignorance Education Peace Unity Freedom." The stars on the flag are made out of skulls and crossbones. The words "Stop the Lynching, Open the Borders" are spray painted over the flag. The words "USA Oppression Racism War Ignorance Education Peace Unity Freedom." The stars on the flag are made out of skulls and crossbones. The words "Stop the Lynching, Open the Borders" are spray painted over the flag.


Ward Churchill is the head of the Multicultural Studies Department at Colorado University. He got his degree at Sangamon State University in Illinois, a "radical" university for radical people," as its old Rolling Stone advertisement explains. He has been married at least four times and is a Native American. He has recently come under fire for displaying enormous insensitivity and flat-out ignorance in his essays and public appearances.

Ward Churchill recently called the innocent Americans who went to work on Sept. 11, 2001 in the World Trade Center "little dirtbags." Adolf Eichmann was one of the Nazis who spearheaded the extermination of the Jews. After much outrage erupted over his comments, Ward Churchill had this to say to the families of the innocent who were brutally murdered by Islamic terrorists: "I'm not backing off an inch. I owe no one an apology."

He owes no one an apology? I couldn't disagree more. Ward Churchill owes every single American an apology for taking his First Amendment rights and using them to compare 9/11 victims to Nazis. Did we miss something? We must have. We thought the World Trade Center was an office building, not Auschwitz. Churchill is flat-out delusional.

Going beyond rejecting an apology request, Churchill goes so far to believe that he is fit to serve as an educator to our nation's young adults at a public university. Of course, universities are a place where a variety of opinions are warmed, welcomed, and even embraced,

Dear M,

I just got engaged! I am so excited to start planning the wedding. I know that I should start planning the place, the flowers, the food, the dress and so much more. There are an endless number of things to think about for the next few months. Do you have any advice?

Waiting for Wedlock

Dear Waiting,

Elope.
M

what puts great style in reach?

A visit to the Aveda Institute Minneapolis for a purely affordable haircut or color.

Cuts start at $12 and hair color and texture at $32. Bring your valid student ID and receive a 25% discount on our already relaxed hair care service (every Tuesday – Friday in the month of February). All services provided by supervised students. Appointments welcome. Call 612.331.1400
Mirror, Mirror on the Wall: A Lenten Devotion

By Aaron Gehrtke

Every morning, one of the first things I do is take a look in the mirror. Some days, my hair looks a little more disheveled than other days. Some days, I am satisfied with my reflection, but other days I am not. This is common for most people. Many people live and die by the reflection they see, because their looks make them who they are. Many tradtions include fasting or giving up something that one loves, like chocolate. Giving something up, Lenten fasting, is simply an option. Lenten fasting is a way to "join" Jesus as he fasted and was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. Many Lutherans use this as a time to prepare for Easter. This preparation includes fasting from food, giving up a habit or slowing down. It can also include starting to study the Bible more, praying, or reflecting on the word of God. Lenten fasting helps to remove the clutter from life.

At Concordia, there are several ways to observe Lent. One can start by noticing the changes in the chapel. The word “alleluia” is removed from banners, liturgies, and conversations. The Baptismal font remains dry in remembrance of the desert in which Christians walk. The Prayer Path, set up in the chapel, is designed to take people on a three-part journey of prayer: the journey through the "inward" release of things, control with God, and the "outward" relationship between each other and the community. Campus Ministry is providing resources for praying the scriptures, morning and evening chapels, and private devotional times. These resources are available to the campus in the Campus Ministry Center or in the chapel. May God bless each student's journey through Lent, awaiting the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Concordia Observes Lenten Rituals

By Andy Herzberg

On Wed., Feb. 9, the Christian church around the world entered the season of Lent. On that Wednesday, many people had black crosses or marks on their foreheads because the Concordia community celebrated Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season. Lent commemorates the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting, meditating, and preparing for the start of his ministry. Lent is a time for reflection, confession and preparation before the Christian church celebrates Christ’s resurrection on Easter (Mar. 27). Some people might say that there are about six weeks between Ash Wednesday and Easter, but Lent is only supposed to last 40 days. The Lenten season does last for 40 days, but the church does not include Sundays because the resurrection is celebrated every Sunday.

During Lent, many people choose to partake in Lenten tradition or rituals. Many traditions include fasting or giving up something that one loves, like chocolate. Giving something up, Lenten fasting, is simply an option. Lenten fasting is a way to “join” Jesus as he fasted and was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. Many Lutherans use this as a time to prepare for Easter. This preparation includes fasting from food, giving up a habit or slowing down. It can also include starting to study the Bible more, praying, or reflecting on the word of God. Lenten fasting helps to remove the clutter from life.

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Intern Spotlight: DCE Stephanie Randolph

Stephanie Randolph is spending the semester in Hawaii. By Eric Cannedy

Imagine beautiful green mountains, rushing waves, gorgeous beaches, and oceans stretching as far as the eye can see. For most people, that place is an escape that one does not often get to experience. How many times have you longed for a place like that during the cold winters of St. Paul? For Director of Christian Education (DCE) Intern Stephanie Randolph, those kinds of sights are just part of the job at her internship in Aiea, Hawaii.

Since June of 2004, Randolph has been on internship at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Aiea. Part of every DCE student’s life at Concordia for one last year of classes. Every morning, Randolph takes the 10-minute walk from her apartment to the mission center at Our Savior, the house in which the church offices are located. At work, she does planning for her week at the church, meets with youth, and absorbs a great deal about church work. As DCE Intern at Our Savior, Randolph leads Bible studies, organizes events, and generally participates in the life of the congregation. Since August, Randolph has started a weekly young-adult Bible study aimed at college-aged students. In addition, she delivers the children’s message every other week during the Sunday services. On Thursday nights, the church sponsors “OASIS” (Our Answer Stands In Scripture), a weekly event aimed at middle-school-aged youth. OASIS includes small group time, games, prayer, and a message that typically centers on some current events that reflect issues that the students might face.

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Different from the Science Museum's permanent dinosaur exhibit, "Chinasaurs: the Great Dinosaurs of China," was the largest collection of real and rare Chinese dinosaur fossils ever to tour North America. Through its rare fossils and life-sized recreations, this giant-sized special exhibit "takes visitors halfway around the world and back in time to experience some of the largest and most well-preserved dinosaurs on the planet." Focused on dinosaurs that lived and thrived in the oil-rich region of China, it offers a different view of dinosaurs from what other exhibits do. "Chinasaurs" features several reconstructions of dinosaurs, and even a bed of rock in which the bones are not completely dug out; visitors can see the fossils the way they were found on the Earth.

This exhibit is home to the fossil remains of some southern China's ancient Giants, such as the Mammothschwastus, with the largest neck of any known animal, over 30 feet long. It also includes fossils from the smaller animals that lived in their shadows. Visitors can "see fossils in life-like poses, like softballs, compose dinosaur footprints as big as an elephant's and as small as a robin's," get up close to a fierce, meat-eating Velociraptor, and be among the first in the world to see a tiny and unusual feathered dinosaur fossils!

Admission to "Chinasaurs" is included in the regular Science Museum exhibit gallery admission ($8.50 for adults and $6.50 for kids and seniors). An audio tour describing each of the fossilized dinosaurs in detail and offering more information about the eras in which these dinosaurs lived, is available for $3 per person. In conjunction with this exhibit, the Science Museum has invited one of the "world's most esteemed paleontologists, museum curators, art experts, and paleontologists" to host a lecture series at the museum. Held on Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons, the "Chinasaurs" lecture series dives into topics like dinosaur growth rates, recent fossil discoveries in China's Liaoning Province, and the significance of the dragons in Chinese culture. Admission to these lectures is free, and more information can be found at the Science Museum's website www.mnm.org.

Upcoming and ongoing St. Paul Science Museum of Minnesota events:

- **In the Omni theater:** "Kilimanjaro: To the Roof of Africa," Jan. 14, 2005 - June 16, 2005
- **Travel with this annual event** through Mt. Kilimanjaro's five climatic zones, with conditions ranging in similarity from the most humid heat of the Amazon to the barren, dry climate of Antarctica. The audience will be right there as the trekkers encounter strange and beautiful landscapes while continually testing their inner strength and endurance against the legendary African peak.

In the 3D Cinema: "Mars 3D" Get ready for a stunningly realistic journey to Earth's closest neighbor. "Mars 3D" reveals real images captured by the NASA's twin cameras on the surface of Mars, as well as cutting-edge animations created from the data acquired by Spirit and Opportunity. The audience is immersed in the eerie desert-like landscape of the red planet—seeing the same footage NASA uses to navigate the rovers and gather information.

Celebrate African Americans in Science: Sat., Feb. 26

A daylong annual event that introduces Science Museum visitors to some of the best and brightest scientists, inventors, and educators from the Twin Cities' African American community. From 1-10 p.m., visitors will meet science and educational professionals, learn about what they do through interactive displays and presentations, and discover the inspiring contributions of African Americans to technology, education, health care, and innovation in Minnesota.

**Omnitheater:** Mar. 18 - April 17, 2005


Chicken Caption Contest!

**Photo by Dale Varnell**

Our caption: "Would you rather be memorized as the winner of a coast guard rescue or a really good science fair?"

Think of the funniest, cleverest, and wittiest captions and write down a dozen eggs laid by these chickens, plus a signed copy of this photo.

Email your captions to sword@speu.edu. Winner's caption will be posted in the next issue of The Sword.
Softball Poised for Strong Season

By Ben Johnson

With the winter coming to an end and the snow slowly melting away, the Concordia Golden Bears' softball team is looking to take their game and stand among the elite teams in the nation. Last year the Bears were ranked number 13 in the Nation, with a 42-20 record, and are looking to keep that tradition alive as the new season starts. With a solid mix of power pitching, solid hitting, and outstanding defense, the Bears are going to be hard to beat.

The offense is going to be led by a variety of hitters that are all going to play their part to lead the Bears to some wins. Junior Kristen Schmidt finished last season with a .335 batting average, 21 runs, 52 hits, 11 doubles, two triples, and nine RBIs. These are solid numbers, and the Bears are going to look to her to keep that up as this season starts. Junior Kelly Linell. Last season, Linell had 26 runs, 41 hits, five doubles, two triples, nine home runs, and 34 RBIs. She also posted a .478 slugging percentage. She is a dominating force that will really help the Bears out this season. The Bears have solid defense all around the field with solid pitchers leading the way. The pitching staff posted a 1.95 ERA last season and is made up of senior Allison Patish, who posted a 1.54 record with a 2.00 earned run average (ERA) and sophomore Mandy Turbo, who had a 5-3 record and a 3.39 ERA as a freshman. The staff is anchored by Schmidt, who had a remarkable 22-12 record with a 1.62 ERA, striking out 246 batters. Schmidt was also named NSIC Pitcher of the Year. These women will help lead the way to yet another solid season for the Concordia Golden Bears.

The season starts on Mar. 18 with preseason games and games against teams already having a season. The Bears are going to be dominating force and are looking to make yet another surge at a conference title and birth to nationals.

Women's Basketball Heating Up

By Ben Johnson

The Concordia Golden Bears' basketball team is not going to go away anytime soon. The women currently sit at a record of 15-6 and are still an impressive 8-0 at home. This record puts them at a tie for third place in the NSIC standings with only a few games left in the season. The standings currently read as follows: MSU Moorhead (7-1), Minnesota Crookston (6-2), Concordia University (5-3), Northern State (5-3), and South West State and Wayne State holding up the bottom at (4-4). The ending is going to be close, and the Bears are definitely in the hunt.

The Bears' offense is led again by the outstanding performances of the Bears' senior guard Jennifer Pozzani, who is averaging 14.7 points a game with a .599 field goal percentage, senior guard Kayla Christensen, who is averaging 12 points a game, and with an 80 percent average from the free throw line, and junior guard Nakia Carlisle, who is averaging 10 points a game with a .445 average from three-point land. Along with the strong offensive performances comes an incredible defensive mentality that the entire team has seemed to have adopted. Freshman guard Megan Kirchenwitz says, "We just continue to work together as a team; we communicate well on and off the court and as long as we continue to execute on defense we will continue to win games." The Bears have held their opponents to just under 65 points a game, only allowing 1,352 points to be scored on them so far this season. The high-pressure defense that the Bears exhibit has caused their opponents to turn the ball over 489 times, and they have 297 steals so far. Most of these steals have been done by Pozzani, who has 53 steals on the season. If defense wins championships, then the Bears are looking pretty good to make a great run in the playoffs.

With playoffs rapidly approaching, the Bears are looking to win and gain their conference games and make a push for a conference championship. Kirchenwitz says, "It's going to be a very close conference race. Our goal since day one has been to make it to the Elite Eight, and we are looking good to do just that."

4x400 Relay Hoping for Nationals

By Ben Johnson

They are strong, they are fast, and they have a lot of pride. This year's track and field team is showcasing itself as one of the elite groups to take a stand on the track. With a month left in the season, the team has already had some amazing accomplishments, personal bests, broken records, and future goals that are yet to be met.

The highlight of the season thus far is the outstanding performance of the men's 4x400 relay team. At the ISU Open in Ames, Iowa, the team dashed for an amazing record-breaking performance. They posted a 3:20.44, which broke the old Concordia record by three seconds. The team is made up of sophomores Kyle Warren, senior Darren Rentschler, senior William Moore, and senior Aaron Stumvoll.

Warren describes the team by saying, "I think the best words to describe our 4x400 team chemistry are faith and pride. Each of us has a lot of pride. We all want to win, and all you have to do is see us racing and pushing each other in practice to see that. We work hard together, and we're constantly trying to get just a little bit faster and beat each other, but we do that because we know that's what we have to do to get better. All four of us need to get better if we are going to reach our goals, so there is a unifying drive between us. The other word I chose to describe us is faith. We all have faith that the other guys will run well, so when I'm out on the track and the gun is about to go, I'm not just running for me. I'm running for the other guys on my team too, because I know they are going to run their heart out, so I'm going to take it too.

The team hopes to qualify for NCAA D2 Nationals, a feat that they missed out on by two seconds last year, and a feat that they are confident of achieving this season. The team has some very important meets coming up in the months of February and March. On Feb. 25 and 26, the team runs in the NSIC Indoor Championships at Bemidji State, and if they qualify, they would run on Mar. 11 and 12 at the NCAA Indoor Championships in Boston, MA.
Baseball Team Set to Dominate

By Ben Johnson

With the winter coming to an end, and the sun coming out, the Concordia Golden Bears baseball team is looking to start up where they left off last season. With the same offensive power and improved pitching staff, the Bears are looking very strong, and they know it. The only thing that held them back last year was pitching, but Coach McKenzie helped solve that problem and so now the Bears are set to go for what appears to be a monumental season.

The Bears pitching staff last year was manned by senior Adam Fishbary (4-2 record), sophomore Jake Campion (4-0), and junior Flaherty (4-2 record), sophomore Bryan Bach; also helping the staff is transfer sophomore Rob Maslowski and transfer Junior Bryan Meier, who was drafted out of the New York Yankees, and Chris Duda, who was an all-region player at Junior College. I see us being a very fun team to watch this spring.” The Bears are looking to these men to help lead the way to yet another solid offensive year.

In addition to the outstanding offense, the Bears have one of the superior defensive teams around. Quarberg is an All-Conference first baseman, Wetzell is an All-Conference second baseman, and Andy Hanson was named 2003 NSIC All Tournament Outhaffer for his performance in center field. With the new pitchers, solid defense, and outstanding hitting, the Bears are going to be a dominant force and are looking for that magical season for which they believe they are in store.

Quarberg says, “I believe that we have the potential to have it all. I know we will have the offense. Defense and pitching have been our main focus during practice. Working on the little things, I believe, will get us the wins that we didn’t get last year.”

Photo by Jonathan Nelson

The baseball team begins the season with their spring trip to Florida, Feb. 26 to Mar. 5.

Men’s Basketball Gains Confidence

By Ben Johnson

The Concordia Golden Bears men’s basketball team is looking for a big push as the season’s end is rapidly approaching. They are currently at 13-8 overall with a 7-2 record at home and a 6-5 record on the road. They have been competitive in every game that they have played in and this gives the men a lot of hope as the playoffs approach. The Bears are currently tied for fifth in the NSIC standings.

“The team confidence is our biggest improvement on the season so far. We believe we can and should win every game we play.”

-R.J. Allen

The Bears are currently just a few games left to go. The conference is led by Northern State (7-1) and Bemidji State (7-1), followed by Winona State (6-2) and Wayne State (4-4). The Bears have a tough road ahead of them but believe they can win every game. As junior guard R.J. Allen says, “The team confidence is our biggest improvement on the season so far. We believe we can and should win every game we play.”

Four Bears have been leading the way on the offensive side of the ball all season and are continuing to do their part to help their team win. Senior captain and guard Brian Janss is averaging 16.1 points a game and is putting in 32.8 minutes a game. Senior captain and forward Justin Youngenberg is averaging 15.4 points a game and is putting in 31 minutes a game. Sophomore guard Kyle Marshans is averaging 11.6 points a game, and junior guard Kenneth Pointer is putting up 10.4 points a game. With the season winding down, the Bears are going to look to those players to help them make a big surge into playoffs and help lead the way in their quest for a conference championship.

The Bears are confident that this about the offense, “I believe that we have the ability to bring the championship to Concordia, and with a little bit of luck and some solid performances from individual players, they just might do that. When asked about the chemistry on the team, sophomore post Martin Walker says, “I think the chemistry on this team is unbelievable. They are all great guys, and I know that if I would ever need one of them they would be there for me.”

The Bears are going to need this kind of togetherness as they head to playoffs and hopefully head past even that.
By Morgan McLaughlin

It is that time of year again: the time of year for bad jokes and unbelievable travesties to be committed. Yes, once again it is time for the Academy Awards (77 for those keeping count). This time, the awards are in Horde for only three for which the "The Passion of the Christ" is nominated. Of the categories, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Animated Feature, and Best Director categories. Minnesota has a growing film industry and this is an opportunity to discover the art of lacrosse. The exciting part is that there is a team in Minnesota, and games are cheap and available to students. The Minnesota team, the Swarm, is up and attacking the other lacrosse teams around. Concordia students now are privileged enough to have the opportunity to discover the ingnorating sport of lacrosse by watching professional battles in the game. The Xcel Center is the home arena of the Minnesota team, the Swarm. This close location makes it easy for Concordia students to get tickets and hop in a car for a quick ride to watch the fierce Swarm surround the opposing team. As games go from January through April, students have many chances to watch these amazing games and enjoy the sport. According to student Jack Girard, "Lacrosse is a very physical game, more than I thought it was. It's like football, but with sticks." And yet there are some students who are ahead of the curve and have already been watching the lacrosse sticks around campus. As student Rachel Menden claims, "Lacrosse is a cool sport because you can play it almost anywhere, like in the snow." Well, if lacrosse can be played in the snow, it certainly fits in Minnesota. And it certainly is fitting. Students have the opportunity not only to watch an intense physical game, but to learn about the sport of lacrosse. Minnesota has a team in the National Lacrosse League, and games are easily available to students. Of late, lacrosse has continued to become more known to people, and this popularity is increasing increasingly popular. The exciting part is that there is a team in Minnesota, and games are cheap and available to students. The Minnesota team, the Swarm, is up and attacking the other lacrosse teams around. Concordia students now are privileged enough to have the opportunity to discover the ingnorating sport of lacrosse by watching professional battles in the game.

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