Dr. Kay Madson Honored Speaker at Poehler Lecture

By Kaitlin Hartnett

She was credited with implementing the newest major in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Criminal Justice Department. She was also the fourth annual Poehler speaker on April 12, 2005. According to the pamphlet handed out before the lecture started, Dr. Kay Madson has done all of it, from being a public welfare case worker to an adjunct instructor at the university level. Also, according to the brief summary of her work presented at the lecture, her interests as a sociologist have focused on marginalized individuals in society. These particular areas include social welfare, ethnic minorities and the criminal justice system.

At the university level, Madson taught at Concordia as an adjunct, later as tenure track faculty, and later she became chair of the Social Sciences Department and served as executive vice president.

She recently expressed her beliefs in her lecture entitled “Theories and Miracles: The Intersection of Sociology and Christian Faith.” Her speech discussed three main points:

March Moments of Excellence Winner

By Kaitlin Hartnett

“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6). These are the words that Kris Spiess, Director of the Hand-in-Hand Childcare Center, says she keeps in mind when caring for the kids at the daycare center. “When I look at my life, at home and here, it’s just something I think about,” Spiess said. “It’s an opportunity to give kids a good foundation for their faith.”

Spiess, who has been at Concordia University for 20 years, said that she was shocked when she found out that she had been nominated for the Moments of Excellence winner for the month of March. “I don’t even know who nominated me,” Spiess said. “I was just honored and humbled that people thought that.”

Spiess has been the Director of Hand-in-Hand, a childcare center located on the floor level of Wollager Hall, for the last seven years, after graduating from Concordia University and taking a call to help with the childcare. She graduated in 1985 after majoring in Elementary Education (grades one through six). She also has a Kindergarten Endorsement, an Early Childhood Minor, a Family Education License and a Masters in Early Childhood Development.

“I really like what I do,” she said. “You can never say that each day is the same.”

Spiess said her favorite part about the job was the kids with whom she gets to work. “It’s fun watching them develop from infants to preschool,” she said. “We almost watch them grow up, and we get a chance to know them and their families.”

Hand-in-Hand is not only a great place for children to spend their first years, but it also offers valuable opportunities for students who want to work with children as their careers. “It’s nice to give students an example of what good childcare is,” Spiess said. “It gives them experience.”

According to Spiess, there is one drawback: since the childcare center is looking to become an accredited center in June, there is a lot of paperwork to go through and fill out. “It’s all challenging in a different aspect,” she said.

Being accredited by the National Association for Education of Young Children would definitely be a “step up,” Spiess said. “Excellence in Early Childhood Education would help us see that we are meeting the high standards of the Association. It just proves that the center is trying to do the best possible thing for children.”

Currently, Hand-in-Hand childcare center handles 46 children at its maximum. Right now, 43 children attend the daycare center. The children’s ages range anywhere from six weeks old to five years old. As for the campus involvement, Spiess said the center is closely intertwined with the rest of the campus. They use the same maintenance staff, and a lot of Education/Early Childhood Majors and Minors get the experience they need by working at the daycare. “We get a lot of support,” Spiess said. “We have no complaints.”

SNEAK PEEK

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Answers According to M: Looking for Summer Employment

Dear M,

I don’t want just any job; I want the perfect, high-paying, prestigious job. I know that I experience reigns highest, you turn down one job for another. If you have never had a job before, you may not be able to get a prestigious job because you lack work experience. My best advice for those who have not had the joyful experience of summer employment is to hire the bullet and find a job.

I would urge juniors and seniors to look for summer employment that will give them experience in areas that they can put on a resume or experiences that will help them in their future careers. One way to look for summer employment is to talk to professors, staff, and faculty on the Concordia campus. Many offices may have wonderful suggestions of individuals or companies that may be looking to hire. If no, these professors, staff, or faculty may be able to offer a recommendation. Talk with students that are in the same program as you about summer jobs or internships. Resources for summer employment are in class with you everyday.

The first step to take before actually looking for a job is to consider what you want from a summer job. Do you want something that pays well? Do you want something that will give you great experience for a future career? Do you want a job closer or far from your house? Do you want a job where you live or where you work? Do you want a job doing a hobby? Sit down and prioritize what is most important to you in a summer job. If paying bills is high on your list, you may turn down one job for another. If experience reigns highest, you may turn down one job that pays more simply for the experience that another job offers.

For freshmen and sophomores, it is never too early to start looking for a job that will give you experience toward a career; however, experience doing a job may be exactly what you need. A person will most likely not find the perfect job as one’s first employment. There is even a hierarchical ladder that high school and college students must climb. If you have never had a job before, you may not be able to get a prestigious job because you lack work experience. My best advice for those who have not had the joyful experience of summer employment is to hire the bullet and find a job.

While it is wonderful to dream about the perfect job, realize that people who are older often have not yet found their dream job. Find something that you will enjoy doing everyday. Three months may seem like a short period of time, but it will drag on forever if you dislike your summer job. You may have to settle for a job where you make a little less money than you wanted, and you may not be getting all the experience that you desired. Experience is experience. You may have to piece together two part-time jobs—one that you enjoy and one that you do simply for the paycheck. Keep an open mind while job hunting. Above all, do not be afraid to apply for jobs and for college and career advice. If you never apply, you will never know.

In the same boat,

-L

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

By Tom Sewing

I am writing in response to "Hey, it’s Studying: Movie Review of ‘Constantine’" by Morgan McLaughlin. In my review, McLaughlin argues that the entire movie is a mockery of Christianity. McLaughlin shows great passion and energy as what he writes, but a careful reader can see past his passion to the lack of knowledge concerning what the movie is based upon: The Holy Bible, the comic book series ‘Hellblazer’, and Catholic myth.

McLaughlin starts by arguing that John Constantine is chosen by God to be a holy warrior against evil. This false. Constantine fights against the powers of evil because he is damned. His damnation is a result of committing suicide because he was able to see demons in the world. According to the Catholic Church, suicide is an unforgivable sin, not because God hates it with such infancy above all sin, but because it is the equivalent of murder, a mortal sin, and the victim has no chance to atone for the sin. Overwhelmed after revised spending over two minutes to hell, therefore, he is able to WORK to gain salvation. This is the only problem because Catholicism maintains a doctrine of salvation by WORKS.

McLaughlin also argues that the two angels in the movie mock Christianity. The name Gabriel comes from Hebrew, meaning ‘God is strong man or warrior of God.’ This would seem to imply a male being in Lucifer is the angel that Satan in Scripture is any of the angels given any sex. Whenever. McLaughlin also portrays shook at the thought of an angel falling from God. He fails to point out that, according to Christian doctrine, angels being is perfect after the fall into sin, not even an angel. A prime example of this is Lucifer, the other angel in the movie. According to Christian doctrine, Lucifer, whose name means barbarian of light, was well placed in the hierarchy of angels before he rebelled against God and fell from heaven. Therefore, it is not impossible for an angel to fall away.

McLaughlin also stated that Lucifer is misrepresented, starting he was a Righteous and saves the world. This is untrue. Lucifer is shown as a man in an
witty humor and caprice directed by Rosvold, Technical Director/male and finds herself in a strange theatre department performs its spring production of "As You Like It," by Shakespeare. Performances run from Fri. April 28 to Sun. May 1 in the E.M. Pearson Theatre.

By Kari Olson

Chances Are You'll Like It

By Debra Beilke


Due to the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, most Americans are now familiar with Muslim radicals such as Osama bin Laden and the Taliban. However, many of us still know very little about the beliefs, practices and history of the vast majority of the one billion Muslims in the world today. The purpose of John Esposito's brief yet informative book "Unholy War: Terror in the Name of Islam" is to provide basic information to Western, non-Muslim readers about the history of Islam and the roots of Muslim resentment of the West.

Esposito begins by describing the background and beliefs of Muslim extremists such as bin Laden, Ayman al-Zawahiri, and the Taliban. Next, in order to place radical Muslim belief within its historical context, he highlights the themes of love and the occupation of the main female characters, for its gender-role reversals. One of the main themes of the play is most commonly known from old grievances such as the Crusades to the more recent history of European colonialism, to current American favoritism of Israel over Palestine.

After explaining the contemporary context of Muslim resentment, Esposito asks "Where do we go from here?" There are no easy answers, of course. But Esposito believes we must begin with a dialogue between the two civilizations. This dialogue begins with each side deepening

By Debra Beilke

Esposito outlines the beginnings and growth of Islam, focusing especially on the Muslim concept of "jihad." To some, the term "jihad" conjures up images of Islamic military attacks against non-Muslims. However, as Esposito explains, the term "jihad" simply means "struggle" or "striving.

Although "jihad" is a central concept to Islam, many debates rage within the religion on how it should be carried out. For some Muslims, "jihad" means an individual's struggle with him or herself to lead a good Muslim life. For others, it might mean working to spread the message of Islam. Still others might believe that supporting oppressed Muslim peoples in Palestine or Kosovo is a form of jihad. Still others, the radicals, believe that violent attacks on infidels is an acceptable form of jihad.

Esposito is careful to distinguish between radical Muslim terrorists such as bin Laden and the vast majority of mainstream Muslims. However, he also emphasizes that even many moderate, mainstream Muslims harbor resentment against Americans for political and economic reasons. The thesis of his book is "that militant jihad movements and terrorism are not just the products of warped individuals or religious doctrines, but mainstream or extremist interpretations, but of political and economic conditions." Some of the political basis for Muslim resentment of the West range from old grievances such as the Crusades to the more recent history of European colonialism, to current American favoritism of Israel over Palestine.

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Americans. But, it's not actually your parents, your teachers, the And, it will, in fact, give you a feeding you about chocolate, you to give them a piece of your mind run for that extra-super-jumbo-Real Chocolate."

...the body in a more steady stream; unlike, say, hard candy which help lower one's blood pressure.

...well not all chocolate...are bad for you; it's the high-calory content that packs the big antioxidant kick. See, it's the mix-in cheap chocolate that are bad for you; it's the high-quality cocoa minus all the junk that makes dark chocolate good for you.

...and not in volume

And, it's not like you should check all the spinach, berries, broccoli and carrots out the window. Remember that third grade food pyramid: fruits and vegetables still right above the grains on the food pyramid for a combined total from the five to nine servings per day..."that's no license to go on a chocolate binge. Eating more dark chocolate can help lower blood pressure, but you have to balance the extra calories by eating less of other things," says wehnd.com. So, you can eat some dark chocolate and get health benefits (unlike that Coke in your hand), but you cannot switch to the all-chocolate diet you were dreaming of only moments ago. You know the rule: all good things in moderation.

Where can I get some decent chocolate to consume in moderation?

Chocolate Celeste is on the south side of University Ave. just before you cross Hwy. 280 into Minneapolis, about three miles from campus. They serve up delicious, generously sized truffles in a variety of flavors, including their signature Celestial Sweetie. In addition, they sell a hodge-podge of assorted chocolate bars and chips. Their chocolate-covered English toffee is also heavenly. Expect to pay $3-$4 for a little piece of chocolate heaven.

Mississippi Market is a co-op, a grocery store that's member-owned and features local, organic products. They also carry B.T. McElrath chocolate products. In addition, Kowalski's has a large selection of high percentage cacao (dark) chocolate bars. Again, it's just about one mile from campus (head to Grand and take a left). 

1261 Grand Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55105
Open 24 Hours
Phone: (651) 698-3366
www.kowalski.com

Kowalski's is a supermarket. Most of you know that. But, they specialize in unique, gourmet items and their chocolate is no exception. They sell a variety of the finest B.T. McElrath chocolate products. In addition, Kowalski's has a large selection of high percentage cacao (dark) chocolate bars. Again, it's just about one mile from campus (head to Grand and take a left). 

You can satisfy your hankering for chocolate at Just Truffles located a few blocks from campus on Grand Ave. just west of Marcy Ave. Mississippi Market is a co-op, a grocery store that's member-owned and features local, organic products. They also carry B.T. McElrath chocolate products and a large selection of great chocolate in the bar form. I'm especially fond of the Green & Black's Mayan Gold, a slightly orange- and spice-flavored chocolate bar. MM is on the corner of Selby and Dale, about two miles away from campus. 632 Selby Ave.

St. Paul, MN, 55104
651-318-9499
Daily 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

ASA STATE

Meet Your 2005-2006 Executive Board!

Cameron Halligan, President
Aaron Gehlke, VP of Relations
Chris Schwanke, VP of Senators
Andrea Chandler, VP of Finance & Organizations
Stephanie Olson, Secretary
Math Club Bets on Fun

by Alissa Kness

Chances are, when flipping through the channels on television, you might come across shows like "World Series of Poker" and "Celebrity Poker Challenge." Don't worry. There's no doubt about it; the popularity of these games is on the rise. On April 19, Concordia students had the chance to participate in these games first-hand.

Concordia's Math Club hosted its second annual Tri-Pi Game Night. "I was really excited about the event," said Tri-Pi advisor Robert Krueger. "With last year's turnout, we knew this year would be bigger. I hope everyone had a good time."

"If people know that math can be fun, they might have a more positive attitude about their math classes," said Ashley Hyatt, Tri-Pi secretary. "I think we can use it to our advantage to show people that math is not always as difficult as it seems."

The popularity of Tri-Pi Game Night has grown significantly in recent years, as evidenced by Krueger's statement about the increase in attendance since last year. "Last year, we had about 100 people," he said. "This year, we had over 150 people."

"I think it's because the events are well organized and the games are fun," said Hyatt. "People want to have a good time, and we try to make sure everyone does."

This year, the Math Club began early in the semester in order to plan for an even bigger event. "We wanted to make sure we had enough time to plan and prepare," said Hyatt. "We also wanted to make sure we could get enough prizes and food for everyone."

Prizes and food were the main attractions of the event. "We have a lot of prizes for people who win," said Hyatt. "We also have a lot of food, so everyone can have a good time." The prizes included gift cards, candy, and other fun items.

The night was filled with excitement and fun. "I think everyone had a good time," said Hyatt. "The energy was very high, and we all had a good time." The event was a big success, and the Math Club is planning to host another Tri-Pi Game Night next year.

Mathematically, this year's event was a success. "I think we did a good job," said Hyatt. "We had a lot of people, and we all had a good time." The Math Club is planning to host another Tri-Pi Game Night next year, and they hope to continue to grow the event in the future.

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Where's God in the Midst of Cancer and Death?

God is not a stranger to pain, suffering, grief, and loss. He has been in our shoes. In fact, he took our place. I quoted Romans 3:23 earlier. Now continue to read verses 24-26.

“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because he is patient with your forbearance; but the day of wrath is coming, and will be revealed to everyone who disobeys the gospel of God.” Romans 3:24-26

The good news of the gospel is that God is not a stranger to pain, suffering, grief, and loss. He has been in our shoes. In fact, he took our place. I quoted Romans 3:23 earlier. Now continue to read verses 24-26.

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Students joined the American Cancer Society on April 1-2 in a 24-hour walk raising money for future cancer research and AGS programs. They were walking backdoors in keeping with the theme of the hour that fact is that the power of death died with Jesus Christ on the cross. The resurrection in God’s triumph over death. Death is no longer the end, but the beginning; the beginning of a life with God as He first intended: without fear, darkness, suffering, or death— with only the light of Christ. What a brilliant morning that will be. “And they shall reign forever and ever.” Amen.

Further Reading

The Morning is far off. Please read these beautiful descriptions of the life of the world to come:

Rev. 21:1-4
Rev. 22:1-5

For a powerful description of how a Christian author experienced grief and loss and asked difficult questions about God, read: “A Grief Observed” by C.S. Lewis.

Youth Gather to Praise VERB

by Abby Fink

The Junior High Youth Gathering (JHYG) is once again at Concordia. This year, it’s all about the Victorious Eternal Righteous Being—God—and what he does. On April 22 and 23, the CampusMin Center will be filled with junior high school students meditating on this year’s theme: “VERB—it’s what God does!”

This year’s theme, submitted by post-interim Lindsey Burken, has multiple meanings. According to co-chair Sally Schuster, “VERB has become an acronym that stands for Victorious Eternal Righteous Being.”

“VERB has become an acronym that stands for Victorious Eternal Righteous Being.” — Ann Burnsibe

The intense preparation also includes a service project. This year’s service event, headed up by Kell Beck and Kami Kuesel, is donating toiletries and socks to Twin Cities’ shelters. Beck and Kuesel have been collecting these items on campus for several weeks. The youth will help prepare the necessities for delivery, stuffing socks with toiletries and attaching a card to a sock.

The youth come prepared for an intense two days filled with fun and learning. The youth participation is so full of life and energy, she reported. Look out for the 400 youth that will be inwarding the camp.

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Noticing the Unnoticed: Concordia Goes to Dorothy Day Center

By Meghan Paul-Cook

Have you ever passed someone along the street—or on the highway ramp—with a sign: “Homeless—Please Help”? What would you do? What do you do?

Perhaps you write it off as a scam, or your first thought is to notice each other, to maintain a spirit of belonging for and among each other. Yet, the unnoticed pass us by every day.

Sadly, the individual on the street—the one on the park bench smelling of alcohol, the one standing on the Cedar ramp to I-94 asking for help, or the child in our daughter’s or younger brother’s or neighbor’s class who changes schools every few months because his or her mother keeps moving from shelter to shelter—is all likelihood, is passed by unnoticed on a fairly regular basis.

According to the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless and the National Coalition for the Homeless, on any given night in Minnesota, approximately 8,600 people are homeless, and an additional 12,700 people are at risk of losing their housing in the immediate future. Of homeless adults, 41 percent are working—and in no state does a full-time, minimum wage job cover the cost of a one-bedroom unit at fair market rent.

Clearly, there is a great disparity between wages and affordable housing—one of the many underlying contributors to homelessness in the United States. Although the problem may seem too overwhelming to do anything, or even give thought to, many people make it their priority to pay attention.

For many years, Concordia has spent the fourth Saturday of every month in service to the homeless community in downtown St. Paul at the Dorothy Day Center, a division of Catholic Charities. Dedicated to poverty reduction, community building, and advocacy, Catholic Charities in the largest providers of social services in the Twin Cities.

Catholic Charities, like the women after whom the Dorothy Day Center was named, takes seriously Christ’s command to be responsible for the neighbor. Catholic Charities are uncompromisingly committed to social justice and to those most in need, to human rights and responsibility, to solidarity, human dignity, community and the common good. The Dorothy Day Center depends greatly on its large volunteer base to fulfill its mission, which provides three meals daily, a food shelf, medical care, a winter emergency shelter with 150 beds, and employment services for St. Paul homeless and near homeless.

Once each month, anywhere from ten to twenty staff, faculty, and students from Concordia volunteer to cook and serve breakfast. The core of regular Concordia volunteers includes Barb and Carl Schoenbeck, Dave and Dave Bredhoff, Paul Hillmer, and Barb Sommers. There could be nearly 200 adults seeking a warm meal at the Dorothy Day Center on a given day. It is only a meal; yet, the meal and the few minutes of human interaction are vitally important both to those being served and to those serving.

Each person who devotes his or her Saturday mornings to this simple and easy task has different reasons for service, including personal, social obligation, faith, and family history to name a few. Yet, they are all on a journey of service together.

When asked why he keeps returning to the Dorothy Day Center, sophomore Chris Splinter said, “I like giving back to the community. I feel I can be like God’s hands on earth, doing God’s work.” Splinter asserted that he has seen the tremendous impact of his service on the lives of others as well as on his own life and his educational experience. “Having grown up in the suburbs where it is not very visible, seeing firsthand the extent of homelessness and poverty in the cities, and talking with people who are homeless, has opened my eyes to a lot. Dorothy Day and other community service opportunities are a big reason why I have stayed at Concordia and why I decided to go into education.”

It is our task to accompany, to empower by loving, to pay attention, to go where love has not yet arrived, and to participate in the great notice of God. At any moment, you may be the only loving, caring person who shows up in the life of another. It is not about words; it is about showing up and paying attention. It is so simple. We are invited—called—to notice each other, to maintain a spirit of belonging for and among each other. Yet, the unnoticed pass us by every day.

For more information on volunteering at the Dorothy Day Center with Concordia, contact the Office of Service-Learning at 651-691-6977 or paul-cook@csu.edu. The next opportunity is Sat., April 23, from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Softball Almost Sweeps

By Adrian Perryman

Softball has made its way home for Concordia College. The Golden Bears were facing Division I South Dakota State University at Dunning Field. The two-day four-game battle almost ended in a sweep by the Golden Bears.

On day one of the match-up, the Golden Bears sweep the Jackrabbits in the home opener. Pitcher Kristen Schmidt made the return after a month of not playing leading five stolen bases for the team to a 14-5 victory. The game was tied at one after seven innings, but the team put together an inning, the team put together an effort that placed junior Bobby Paul into scoring position for the win. In the day's second game, the Bears had three runs on four hits and five walks. In the second game of the day, the pitching of freshman duo Eric Utoft and Bryan Bach led the Bears to a 1-0 victory. The game put Utoft at 4-0 on the season.

Athlete Gives the Inside Track

By Adrian Perryman

We are a group of athletes from Concordia University track and field athlete goes through during the weekend of track meet? No? Well, therefore your name is Adrian Perryman, and I am a sophomore at CSP. I am a member of the track and field squad. We recently competed at the Missouri Relays in Columbia, Missouri, at the University of Missouri. The following is a brief glimpse of what went on during our three-day journey.

On Wednesday morning, the team received an email telling us that we would be departing from the Gangelhoff Center (GC) at 10 a.m. on Thursday morning. (We had known we were leaving sometime Thursday, but were not sure exactly what time.) By Thursday morning, we had notified our professors that we would be leaving early, and we had their permission to take our quizzes before we went or after we came back.

We loaded up our Codec, loaded all of our bags and equipment onto the bus and departed around 10:30 a.m. on Thursday. We all told the team that we had last about eight hours so we brought our iPods or CD players and laptop to keep us occupied. We headed south through the flat land of Iowa on the way to Missouri.

By Thursday morning, we had passed the Kansas City Royal Stadium, the Kansas City Chiefs and the Kansas City Royals. We also passed a mall, and we couldn't enjoy and kept driving.

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Eating Disorders continued from page 5

it can be hard to spot a suffering from bulimia. Sometimes, because "many individuals with the disorder remain at risk of death by suicide or a fall in suicide rate". The disorder is characterized by episodes of uncontrolled eating. However, in such a case, a person can develop a phobic bulimic eating disorder. The disorder is characterized by episodes of binge eating and purging. There is evidence that suggests binge eating and purging is also common. Eventually, some people develop bulimia.

A lesser known eating disorder is binge eating disorder. Like bulimia, binge eating is characterized by episodes of episodes of uncontrolled eating. However, in such a case, a person can develop a phobic bulimic eating disorder. The disorder is characterized by episodes of binge eating and purging. There is evidence that suggests binge eating and purging is also common. Eventually, some people develop bulimia.

Medical complications are frequent in sufferers of eating disorders. The disorder is characterized by episodes of uncontrolled eating. However, in such a case, a person can develop a phobic bulimic eating disorder. The disorder is characterized by episodes of binge eating and purging. There is evidence that suggests binge eating and purging is also common. Eventually, some people develop bulimia.

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