Concordia to host International conference

By Emily Marcus

Each year brings new developments and changes to the Concordia St. Paul campus. March 10-11 marks another first. Lee Pao Xiong and Tzaineng Vang have worked together with numerous others to create the first International Conference on Hmong Studies. The two day event will be held on the CSP campus focusing on the theme “The Impact of Globalization and Transnationalism on the Hmong.”

Scholars and interested individuals from around the world will be in attendance to partake in the historic event. The organizers state, “The purpose of the conference is to provide an opportunity for scholars to share their research findings, to inspire and motivate students to engage in scholarly research, and to recognize distinguished scholars for their work in the field of Hmong Studies.” Concordia also has the first Center for Hmong Studies, which is located near the chapel.

According to the Center for Hmong Studies’ Web site, the Center provides a “significant place to cultivate the heritage of the Hmong people, promote education and empower the Hmong community to pursue their respective vocations, recognize their strengths and abilities, and utilize their skills for service.” This statement ties in with CSP’s mission statement which looks to prepare students for thoughtful and informed living.

Hope for Our Journey

By Emily Marcus

“User Friendly” changes Updates to be made in Student Union

Spending time in Tier Two of the Student Union, Lindsay Hargens and Jake Borkhus play pool. The Student Union Board of Governors got approval to spend $1000 on updates in the Union.

By Jordan Watson

A major component of on-campus resident life is the availability of activities for students’ spare time. According to Nathan Burrows, a member of the Student Union Board of Governors, there are many plans in place to make positive changes to the Student Union. These changes include more activity and lounge space to give students options including games, movies and fitness.

“The major reason provided by students as to why they are moving off campus is that there is nothing to do on campus during or on the weekends. Hopefully the union will be a solution to that. I would like to see the union become the main hang-out and study area instead of the Pearson commons for students,” Burrows said.

The process began with the work of the Board of Governors, which consists of five student senators. “First we came up with ideas and decided what could feasibly be done. Next we talked to our friends and fellow students to find out if they would like the changes. Then we had to begin planning and obtain funding. We then went before the whole senate and made our proposal, asking funding and a service team to help make the changes,” Burrows said. This year, the Board of Governors has been approved to spend up to $1000 on Tier Two of the Student Union.

The goal of the Board of Governors, September Nelson, Conference and Events Coordinator, is one of the people responsible for helping make the changes in the Union. “So far, the biggest changes we’ve made and the biggest thing students have noticed is the disappearance of the big television from Tier One. It’s not really gone, we’ve just moved it up Tier Three as the first step in the changes,” Nelson said.

Aside from the movement of the TV, other changes have occurred. “We’ve added a stage complete with lighting. We’ve made more room for the pool, air hockey, and foosball tables, as well as moving

continued on page 2...

“User Friendly” changes Updates to be made in Student Union

Continued from page 1...

Continued on page 2...

Women’s History

in the spotlight

By Sam Voeller

This March, we will celebrate Women’s History and commemorate influential women throughout the United States.

In 1980, President Carter began celebrating women in history when he issued the Presidential Proclamation encouraging the people of America to recognize the contributions women have made. His proclamation was in response to the National Women’s History Project. According to the National Women’s History Project Web site, the movement began in order “to address the absence of information about women in America’s schools.” They ultimately began this movement which was brought to Congress.

The goal was to “designate a celebration to recognize women’s historic achievements.” Dr. David Woodard, Professor of History and American Government, noted the absence of many groups in his early history classes.

“When I was in grade school, history was primarily about white makers—presidents, diplomats and military leaders. But it didn’t take long to figure out that many interesting and important people, from all walks of life, were being left out of History books: women, African-Americans, labor leaders, social reformers, writers, artists, and poets—just to name a few,” Woodard said.

The National Women’s History Project wanted to ensure that children in school would be taught about women throughout history who have contributed to changing America. In 1987, March was declared as Women’s History Month by 14 state governors. That same year, the President, along with Congress nationally declared March as Women’s History Month.

Each year, there is a theme established by the National Women’s History Project. This March, the theme honors the spirit of possibility and hope set in motion by generations of women in their creation of communities and their realization of dreams through the theme, “Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams.” They want to beoer women who have continued on page 2...
Spreading awareness of problem gambling  

By Lindsay Hartleben  

Among the poker chips, bingo cards and fake money strewn across an information table in the Tunell on Feb. 15 were numerous pamphlets about problem gambling, provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Dr. Amy Swanson, Director of Counseling Services and Chair Rafferty, Director of Health Services, gathered the resources to “raise awareness about gambling, the good and the bad,” according to Swanson.

“For a lot of students it’s fun, it’s entertainment, but for a small percentage it becomes a problem.” Swanson said.

Rafferty and Swanson were prompted by recent news stories focusing on the rise of online gambling.

“We want people to know where to go for help, either for themselves or for other people,” Rafferty said.

Such information is especially relevant on a college campus because problematic gambling is on the rise among the 18-24 year-old age group, Rafferty said.

Students who stopped by the table were able to enter a drawing for one $10 gift certificate to Target and one $10 gift certificate to the bookstore. As students stopped at the table, many shared their gambling stories. Devin Gallison and her father go to the casino once a year before school starts with $100.

“Once I doubled my money and once I lost it all,” said Gallison, who doesn’t gamble often. “It’s kind of overkilled.”

The purpose of spending time at the table was simple.

“We want to show how to set limits and be responsible so it stays fun,” Swanson said.

Union changes, continued

By Lindsay Hartleben  

During a Snowcoming Coffee House last Halloween, an author student bands to the newly-constructed stage for performances.

Jason Rahm, Vice President for Student Life, hopes that activity in the Union will increase with the changes.

“We’re trying to drive activity in the Union. Tiers Two and Three have been underutilized and we want to increase interest for all students. Also, some students don’t even know what Tier Two and Three have to offer, so we want to add some signs to let them know. Students should be able to know what’s there for them. We want it to be a user-friendly area,” Rahm said.

“I feel strongly that if more students use the Student Union and its resources, then the social life at Concordia will greatly increase. I think this campus needs a "hangout" spot for students to get together with their friends and maybe meet new friends as well, and I can’t think of a better place than the Student Union!” said Chris Schwankwe, Vice President of Senators.

Students have already begun to notice some of the changes.

“I think the changes will be beneficial. I can’t wait to them. I am excited about the new equipment for Tier Two. I think the new changes will be really cool and convenient,” said freshman Aaron Moran.

As with any changes that occur on campus feedback from the students is appreciated.

“We are always looking for more feedback. We want to hear about the changes that people like and what they would like to see,” said Nelson.

Women's History Month, continued

Women brought communities together and regained hope in troubling times.

Woodard further explained the significance of women’s history.

“Over the years, I have made it a point to try and read as much as I can about these ‘overlooked’ individuals and groups. This reading helps me better understand this nation’s diversity and the contributions made by women and other groups,” Woodard said.

“Studying women’s history also serves to remind me of the oppression and inequality that has played such a large part of the history of the United States, and we should be reminded of that often.

There is also family motivation behind Woodard’s desire to spread the word about the importance of Women’s History Month.

“I also have two young nieces. I want them to read about Alice Paul, Emma Goldman, Crystal Eastman, and the women who died in the Triangle Shirtwaist fire. I would be extremely disappointed if they did not have the opportunity to examine their own history. In my youth, I had to sit through classes and learn about James Buchanan, William McKinley, and Calvin Coolidge. I don’t want young people to be forced to endure that type of learning.” Woodard said.

Woodard has taken part in Women’s History Month in the past and will initiate events to honor women throughout the month here at Concordia. Each day, he will post biographies on two women who have impacted history in America.

“I initially did the tribute on my Web page last year for Women’s History Month. I am going to add some biographies this year and update a few of my other entries. I plan to make this a permanent site, adding new biographies each month," Woodard said.

Want more information? http://www.mnawhp.org

http://people.csp.edu/~Woodard/DEWindex.htm
It's not spring! Why are we having Spring Break? The Sword Perspective

By Andrew Jones

That time of year that we all look forward to is coming upon us: that spectacular day when an egg is supposed to stand on end! That's right! The vernal equinox is only a month away! On March 29 we will have exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of night.

Perhaps by this point you are wondering why it could be that a person might be excited about a vernal equinox. The fact of the matter is that the vernal equinox is also the very first day of spring. Finally, we will emerge from the long, dreary nights of winter and life will begin anew in this world we refer to as Minnesota. Spring is the beginning of being active yet again and going out and doing real things. However, one must wonder why it is that, here in Minnesota, spring break is a full two weeks before spring and a full two weeks before anyone else's spring break. February 24 is hardly spring time. In fact, for anyone living in the Midwest this could possibly be the worst time to have a spring break. If one were to travel home it would mean that it would still be cold and they would not get to relax. The break is seemingly too soon into classes and with no other sports on spring break, there are no prime spring break shindigs to go party at. With these arguments in mind, one has to wonder what is it that possessed Concordia to have such an early break. As early as the break is, one can appreciate the fact that Concordia also has an Easter break to look forward to. Ultimately, during spring semester there are never more than five weeks of classes at a time. Perhaps this is why spring semester always seems to fly by quicker than the fall. It may also be because of the break so that the season before is ready to overwhelm a person there is a break to relax.

So rather than feeling upset over the fact that spring break brings the Super Bowl, one should not go ahead and have fun anyway. Find your friends and book a trip to Florida and enjoy the coaches before they are too overwhelmed with college students that you can't even spread out a towel. Use some frequent flyer miles and travel to Hawaii. Buy a plane ticket before prices skyrocket because everyone else is buying one. Enjoy your early spring break and be sure to take full advantage of it.

This was also quite a boring Super Bowl. Don't you think that whoever decides to rig these games would make a little more exciting than a 21-10 bore-to-sleep fest with two good plays the entire game? I was going to rig Super Bowl I, but I didn't have enough cause the Super Bowl was being rig, Pittsburgh running back Jerome Bettis would have had a bigger role to play in the game as the so-called "hometown hero" returning to Detroit for his last game. He did not have a great game and I am honestly surprised he was not called upon more often. I think the rigging of such a game would have occurred on Jerome Bettis near-touchdown, not a Roethlisberger near-touchdown.

Here is your true test to a rigged NFL system: If Brett Favre can come back next year and lead the Packers to another Super Bowl victory, start rating your eye brows. I know when John Elway ended his career with the two Super Bowl victories, I for one thought that the Broncos were never able to find another player who could lead them to a Super Bowl again. As all in, if the NFL is rigging these games in some way, shape or form, we'll find out eventually as the fans, because there is no way that all the players involved, coaches involved and referees involved will be able to keep their big mouths shut about it forever.

The Jones Zone

By Timothy Walworth

Oh yes, it is that time again. It is time for spring break: a time for those who are already homesick to make the brief sojourn home. If not that, it is a wonderful opportunity to travel with the homesick friends to meet their families and just to hang-out and chill away from the pressures and the gear I will need once I get to Washington. Greyhound will be spent in the rainy state of Washington. Well, it will be spent there when I'm not on the road, anyway.

Owing to my relative poorness, as I only have one rich relative, and if you compare me to anyone and if you compare me to anyone other than a church worker, I was forced to find alternative means other than a church worker, I was forced to find alternative means, my Spring Break will be wonderful. After all, how many people get to spend almost three days of their Spring Break on a bus? Although this may seem a little weird to some, I live in a state where the nearest school available to play sports against is an hour and a half away. Such things have conditioned me to such interesting jaunts.

Seeing the grandparents was too much of an opportunity to pass up, even if they are around 1,700 miles away. I cannot wait for rainy days, for apple trees, for people who speak without accents and for the warm, relaxing feeling of a house that has been cleaned since my father was born. There are other travel options to be sure, Canaan and Daytona Beach most readily come to mind. It's been three or four years, though since I have been swoken early on a sound of orange juice being poured and the smell of pancakes crafted into the letters of my name. It has been too long and but now to listen to the grandparents, finding out things I never had thought to ask like, "Do you know if your Grandma was in a sorority?"

The cash situation for this trip would probably be a frightening factor, if I had ever thought about it. However, forethought is not a strong suit for me, so I did not worry about how I will come up with this money as well as the money for a possible France trip this spring, the ticket home and the gear I will need once I get back on the fishing boat. All of those concerns I have, and will push to the back of my mind, and deal with them after I visit two of my favorite people in the world.

The trip will probably end up being a Charlie Brown-like story, especially since I have lived this before. There will be a lot of mess up, falling on my face, and having the ball yanked away, but nonetheless, spring break will be a good time.

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—Timothy Mick, DC, Professor and Northwestern Alumnus

"The high quality of the professors at Northwestern is a huge strength! The professors are very straightforward about the amount of work that is required, but I know I will look back and realize that I learned from the best of the best."

—Chris Grier, chiropractic student, Student Senate President
Spring Break in the Cities

By Michelle Wegner

Staying in the cities for spring break? Don't get stuck watching reruns all week. Below are a few ideas to get you off of the couch and into the city.

**Head to downtown Minneapolis**

*“Do the Town Parking”*
Free parking if you spend $20 or more at a participating retailer

**Nicolett Mall** and the Gaviidae Commons including
Marshall Fields and Sax's Fifth Ave Outlet

**Kieran's Irish Pub**
(live music) on 2nd Ave.

**Game Works**
Hennepin Ave on 6th street
Power Lunch from 11a.m. to 3 p.m.
Monday through Friday
Food, Beverage and 30 tickets of game play for $10

**INXS Concert at the Orpheum Theater**
Thursday March 2nd at 8 p.m., priced at $38.50

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**Take a trip out of the Twin Cities... to the suburbs**

**Albertville Premium Outlets**
Take 94 West to exit 202

**Plymouth Playhouse**
Church Basement Ladies: a musical comedy about four Lutheran ladies out to fix the problems of a rural Minnesota church set in 1965
Priced from $22, visit www.plymouthplayhouse.com for more ticket information

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**A sampling of happy hours...**

**The Nook**
Drive south on Hamline for $1 burgers and drink specials
Monday nights after 9 p.m

**Billy's on Grand**
$2 Taco Night from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. - midnight

**Chevy's**
Half price margaritas and appetizers from 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. - close

**O'Gara's**
$2 - $3 taps and cocktails

**Mell's Beauty Bar**
$15 martini and manicure from 4:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

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**Staying in St. Paul**

**Alexander Ramsey House in Saint Paul**
Tour this beautiful Victorian home Fridays and Saturdays
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**Science Museum**
Now showing at the Science Museum:
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Visit www.smm.org for more information

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**Spring Break in the Cities**

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Sprin
Egypt in Translation
Blending ancient history and modern life

By Kaitlin Hartnett

Unlike most professors and students who spend the remainder of the winter holidays either at home or working, Communications professor Dr. Basma Ibrahim-DeVries, accompanied by Dr. Samiha Ibrahim and about 25 students, spent the January term in Egypt. Two of the students, Lorraince Wooley and Antionette Simone, were Concordia’s own. The time is well spent, Dr. Ibrahim-DeVries said. The students are able to experience many of the wondrous things of Egypt that most people only dream about, but they are also able to earn credit and learn more about the culture than just mere tourists.

“It’s a fun experience to share with all different types of students,” Ibrahim-DeVries said. “Egypt is a second home to me and it’s a great opportunity to get to visit a great deal of accommodations and entrance fees to all historical sites, museums, etc. The only item they do not cover are a few meals and any souvenirs students might want to buy while on the trip.

Since this excursion counts as four credits during J-term, the time in Egypt is well spent, not just exploring, but doing some academic work as well. The students are required to keep journals, give group projects, and write a final paper. There are also informal Arabic lessons during the course if a student wishes to enhance their language experience. Dr. Ibrahim-DeVries said the students do all these activities to show how they are partaking in the experience and see it as a way to break down barriers that inhibit human interaction. It definitely opens their eyes to another way of life,” Ibrahim-DeVries said. “Students can see similarities and differences compared to our own cultures and experiences. It’s a huge benefit to be able to learn more about one’s own culture and how it is perceived in other societies.”

Ibrahim-DeVries said the worst part about the trip itself was having to come back and experience jet lag and be a few days behind. Since Concordia does not have a full J-term, classes start a few days before the group returned from their trip.

“My favorite part of the trip is seeing how excited the students are to see things they’ve only dreamed or read about,” Dr. DeVries said. “Egypt is just really cool and a great place to gain intercultural experience.”

According to the itinerary, students spend much of the course in Cairo, Egypt, North Africa’s largest city and the cultural and scientific hub of the Middle East. Along with visiting many famous sites such as the Pyramids and the Sphinx, students that take the course also get to visit a great deal of other educational, medical, political, and religious institutions. These include the Cairo Museum, the Pyramids Institute, Coptic Orthodox Christian churches, and the Citadel and Islamic mosques. Other sites visited include Upper Egypt (where some of the more famous temples of Luxor and Karnak and the site of King Tut’s tomb in the Valley of the Kings are located) and Alexandria, which focuses more on a past Greco-Roman period.

The total cost of the trip itself is $4095. Dr. DeVries said that the cost worried college students, who are normally short on cash as it is. But the expense covers everything from air and rail transportation to accommodations and entrance fees to all historical sites, museums, etc. The only item the cost does not cover are a few meals and any souvenirs students might want to buy while on the trip.

“I definitely open their eyes to another way of life,” Ibrahim-DeVries said. “Students can see similarities and differences compared to our own cultures and experiences. It’s a huge benefit to be able to learn more about one’s own culture and how it is perceived in other societies.”

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Science department expands research possibilities

By Jordan Watson

Due to advancements in housing developments and invasive species, natural forests areas in Lindstrom, Minn. are in danger. However, in December 2004 Concordia’s Department of Natural Sciences were given gifts of land from Violet Norelius and Gerry Stolt, as well as Mark Anderson and Kathy Delmont, all citizens of Lindstrom.

The land has been in Anderson’s family for many years and was once farmland. The land owned by the Norelius family has barely been touched for over fifty years. According to Dale Trapp, Ph.D., Chair of Department of Natural Sciences at Concordia, the land will be used for study as well as a few other purposes.

“The land was given to us for two reasons. Mark was looking for someone to help take care of the land, but also to use it for outreach. We want to expose inner-city youth to the wilderness. We will associate with grade schools both in St. Paul and in the Lindstrom area. We will also be using the land for study while we maintain and improve it,” Trapp said.

Trapp explained that Anderson owned 90 acres of land north of Bull Lake and gave seven and one half acres of a 30 acre plot, plus the use of the remaining land, to the department. The Norelius family owned 30 acres of land south of the lake and provided the science department with 10 acres. In total, the science department has between 80 and 90 acres of land to work with.

The process of maintaining the land will be a long and difficult one, but worth it.

“We want to identify and remove invasive species of plant-life such as honeysuckle and buckthorn. Once these invasive species begin to diminish the native species of plants can begin to come back, along with native animals. Even if this takes us 50 years we want people to continue improve it,” Trapp said.

Other dangers to the land are also present, such as pollution, due to Bull Lake being connected to four larger areas lakes by an inlet. “The connection with the other area lakes causes some pollution. We want to reduce that, as well as prevent people from destroying the land with jet skis and snowmobiles. We can also explore the groundwater and see if that is contributing any pollution,” Trapp said.

Furthermore, a new housing development has begun on the ten acres of Norelius’s land. This is not necessarily good, but it will allow study of the effects on the land. Also, Applied Ecological Services Inc. has evaluated the Anderson land for a possible housing development. Trying to figure out how to build and be environmentally friendly at the same time will be the challenge.

“Those developments will allow study of the effects on the land,” Trapp said.

Though the maintenance and improvement of this land will be difficult the science department hopes to make good use of it.

“We've incorporated the study of this land into our classes. Students will be doing a lot of research projects at the Research Station and seeing it improve over time,” Trapp said.

Students from Concordia University go for a hike in Lindstrom, MN.

Photo courtesy of Dr. Dale Trapp

The Sword!

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"Interruptions in Introversions,
A look at the girl beyond the frame

By Kari Olson

It took Jeanne Ronchak more than the course of fall semester to create her senior show "Interruptions in Introversions." She didn't know about the official time, location or how much work would be involved until just a few months ago, but Ronchak has actually been working on the pieces for this show for the course of her four years at Concordia, and the theme/subject matter during the course of her life.

The show is a collaboration of work from the beginning of her senior year until only a month ago consisting of multiple pieces and diversity in color with photography, painting, sculpture and video. As an art major emphasizing in photography and having taken painting courses, some of the work was created in the context of the classroom. However, the collaboration of the pieces creates a more personal insight to the artist.

"I was able to use pieces of the past that always had elements of myself in it. I use a thin and watery painting style: this is how I feel about myself."

Painting a purpose here at Concordia

By Kari Olson

If one was to travel west on Marshall, one of the only streets acting as a direct gateway from Concordia into St. Paul or Minneapolis, and continue over the bridge until it turns into Lake Street, one will find a community different from the slow and steady beat of the modernized Grand Avenue or busy chairs of Midway shopping area. These areas slowly diminish into a comfortably blended area of average housing, Mexican restaurants and convenience stores English and Spanish slogans pattern the glass windows and wooden signs. Even the colors reflect a pronounced and yet subtle Chicano / Chicana community. Looking within the corners of the community centers and convenience stores, inside the buildings, the local student, one can find a plethora of murals. Some advertise the goods held within the building, some act as "tagging" but others celebrate through a sense of location. A lot of pictures show a sense of place...where I am most comfortable and safe, but I don't feel like I'm the thing you should be looking at."

"Embedded in the same wall of vibrant color and black and white are two graffiti-style pieces. Ronchak states that these two pieces are "not typical of her usual style of painting," but manages to integrate the pieces with the others through bright colors and by breaking out of the format of the canvas by painting directly on the wall. The video and sculpture piece also breaks up the space and, as for the music video recording for local band "Classic Faults," breaks the silence."

Any senior exhibit at Concordia is going to be different with the range of talents and personalities in the art department. While each is unique in its own way, Ronchak's show shows not only stylistic differences, but the personality distinctions of an individual and an artist at Concordia and her ways of breaking out of the box.

Jeanne's "egg" pieces engage the William's Teaching Gallery with vivacity in color and large scale in relation to the smaller 8 x 10 black and white photographs. Although the pieces are not self-portraits as the photographs are, they are meant to be a representational bridge between herself and her emotions. Ronchak states that the paintings are more objectively revealing, but even these have their reservations. Although they are self-portraits, Ronchak unites the photographs to the viewer and the paintings is representational.

"The painting is welcoming, but it is left to the viewer to initiate...you have to bring yourself closer." The photographs are more objectively revealing, but even these have their reservations. Although they are self-portraits, Ronchak unites the photographs to the viewer and the paintings is representational.

It's not easier to quit smoking after college. It's harder.

Research shows most college grads who smoke find it harder to quit after college...not easier.

For help, call (888) 354-PLAN

Photo By Kari Olson

Photo By Hannah Bartz
By Hannah Bartz

With practice already started in mid January and their first game of the season out of the way, the Concordia University softball team plays on and works hard for their ranking of 5th in the National Fast-pitch Coaches Association (NFCA) pre-season poll. The girls have worked hard since the beginning of the first semester and all through the winter off-season. Accomplishing multiple wins throughout fall ball and even splitting a double header with the U of M, the girls continued to work on their hitting and conditioning skills through November and December. This time gave the players a chance to work on their swing and a possible switch in positions in the future.

Since their strong record of last year, the highest ranking ever for the Bears, 44-15 and ranked 9th in the Fast-pitch Coaches Association, their first trip ever to the Elite Eight, and their great playing ability of fall ball, coach Bob Bartel feels, “they are worthy of that ranking or higher.”

“We are consistent and they win a majority of games” which gives a good reason why they are ranked the way they are.

The players seem quite excited for the spring season and not afraid to know the fact that they are now the team with a “target on their back,” as junior 3rd Base player, Amanda Yurek stated. Yurek adds, “We look very good and sharp for the time of the season. We have talent and play up to that.”

“Amanda to me is more of a student than a player. She’s a very smart player,” added Kristine Linell, as a senior, holds the record of games” which gives a good reason why they are ranked the way they are. The team is held together quite well by its senior leadership. The team has a large amount of seniors who know what to do in order to get the job done. Senior status pitcher Kristen Schmidt and catcher Kristin Linell, as a senior, hold up the front line defense and help create a strong team defense along with other team members.

The line up holds some great hitters that don’t let a few strikes hold them back from a home-run. The plan for the team is to head to Fort Meyers, FL for spring break and participate in a tournament.

The girls have been working hard all year for season, and a great way to start out the season is a tournament that challenges every player. There is always the wonder if a freshman is nervous going into a sport, let alone being ranked highly. The softball coaches and the team accept the rookies right away and make the feel of the game natural. Since fall ball, the muscle memory kicks back in and the girls are right back on track to doing what they love.

The team is not average. They work hard and enjoy what they do.

They worked hard to get where they are today and continue to hold their ground and accomplish great feats.

Friendship Travels

By Adrian Perryman

Steven Atwood is the newest addition to Concordia University’s Men’s Golf Team. Most students travelling from the southernmost point in the US to the North Star State would be a chilling experience. But for this key West Florida native, the journey to Minnesota brought him home to a life long friend.

Antwon Williams on the first time the two laid eyes upon each other. The friendship blossomed from there. Williams added “We became friends right away.”

After high school the two went there separate ways after graduation, each pursuing there college career in different parts of the country. Atwood traveled to the left coast where he attended College of the Canyons in California to play golf. Williams followed his family member Mike Brooks to the north to play football as a Golden Bear.

But when Williams saw that Concordia was going to have a golf team, Atwood was the first person he called. “I wanted Concordia to excel and I knew that he was a skilled player.”

After the initial tip from Williams, Atwood did everything else on his own. He made his visit during the weekend of the infamous 3rd Annual CU Pajama Jammy Jam. “I had a good time,” commented Atwood on his Concordia visit including the PJ Jam. “Being able to play golf and being able to be with my friends were brought me to Concordia”, said Atwood on his transfer decision. Atwood won’t have a chance to compete until the fall due to eligibility but he is happy with his decision. “I like the coaching staff, (Head Coach Matt Higgins) is more of a personal guy while (Assistant Coach Craig Waryan) is more of a teacher,” added Atwood. “I think I’ll do pretty good.”

Concordia Sports Highlights Recap

Concordia University Soccer Team receives Team Ethics Award of Merit from National Soccer Coaches Association of America – Feb. 16

Katie LaViolette named to the ESPN The Magazine Academic All-District third team – Feb. 8

Adrian Perryman named NSIC Men’s Indoor Track Athlete of the Week Twice – Jan. 31, Jan. 10

Amanda Meuller named NSIC Women’s Indoor Track Athlete of the Week – Jan. 10

Amanda Behnke NSIC Women’s Basketball Player of the Week – Jan. 30

Softball Team Ranked 5th in Pre-Season Poll by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association – Feb. 1

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Staff meetings:
Wednesday 7 p.m. - Concordia Conference Room
Email sward@csp.edu with further questions.