The Poehler Lecture Series is an annual event designed to explore how students and faculty in the College of Arts and Letters, College of Education and Science, and College of Business have connected their Christian faith with their academic discipline. Speakers are selected based on excellence in their academic discipline and the maturity of their Christian faith.

Chosen as the honorary speaker for this year was Dr. Paul Hillmer. Dr. Hillmer was a student at Concordia from 1979 until the fall of 1982. He returned as a member of the staff in 1988 and began teaching after earning his M.A. in history in 1991. He is most publicly known for authoring A People’s History of the Hmong, published by Minnesota Historical Society Press (2010). Dr. Hillmer embodies what, at its best, a Concordia University education can offer to motivated and curious minds.

Dr. David Lump, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, introduced the evening by stating that the lectures were started to explore the various ways senior faculty members from across the disciplinary spectrum brought together their teachings, their research in their disciplines, and their Christian faith. He proudly stated the mission statement of Concordia in reflection of the purpose of the lecture. Then the lecture was opened in prayer.

Continued on page 3...
Dear Concordia faculty, staff, students, and community members,

Welcome to the next to last edition of The Sword for the year. Where has all the time gone and why has it gone so quickly? There are really no answers to this question but some of you probably feel the same way about your school year. Whether this is your first year, last year or somewhere in-between, time is winding down quickly towards the end of this college year. Hopefully you have grown in many amazing ways and learned a few things about who you are as a person. The best part of this school year ending is a new one begins very soon for some and for others a new world is open for the taking.

The writers and staff have done an amazing job up to this point and I can only see things improving in the future. We started with a few hiccups that come from trying to get all the moving parts going in the right direction. We made our way through and are now operating like a well-oiled machine. We sometimes forget to say thank you to the people who truly make our job great and I am guilty of this as well, so I am taking this time to say thank you to all who help make The Sword what it is.

Let me say this once and hopefully all will heed my words. There are no more breaks before the end of the school year. What that implies is the time for relaxing is over and work is calling for you to buckle down. I would like for everyone to finish the year strong and with high marks all around. Put the distractions aside and focus on what will get you through to finals. I am doing the same on my end and hopefully we all can finish this year on a great note. I hope everyone had a good Easter and please enjoy the coming of spring.

Charles Hines
Editor-in-Chief

March Correction: Kartrina Bell wrote Anna Metcalf: “A Living River” Review in the March issue.
Easter Vespers Jubilate Voices

By Katrina Bell

Vespers is an evening service that is often combined with Evening Prayer in the liturgies of the canonical hours. In Lutheranism, the traditional form has varied with time and place. Martin Luther once said, “In the same way at Vespers, let them sing the Vesper Psalms . . . with an antiphon; then a hymn, as there is opportunity.” The general formula of Vespers is a psalm reading and the response. The psalms may be sung or spoken, and the service often focuses on a topic or idea.

Prof. Shari Speer and the Jubilate Choir will lead the Easter Vespers Service. “I want the service to reflect the different kinds of worshipful experiences that we share: prayer, singing, dancing, reflecting, and praise through worship.” Jubilate has a great deal of music that they will be performing, but despite the variety, Prof. Speer claims, “. . . it always comes together in a really nice, tidy sequence from beginning to end.”

The highlighted work that Jubilate will present is a piece called the Missa Brevis in D by Benjamin Britten, an exceptional and interesting piece. Consisting of four movements and a twelve tone row, Britten wrote the piece for a three part treble chorus (boys’ voices) and organ. Jubilate will sing it as a six part mixed choir. Dr. Nathan Kennedy will be Jubilar’s guest pianist, and Dr. Kristina Langlois will be performing as guest organist.

Prof. Speer adds, “Each of the pieces has a special quality to it, and I always pick the pieces based on the choir. I want the songs to be a reflection of those voices, their special qualities, and personalities.”

“It’s a nice time to reflect. The service is intended to be thoughtful and emotional. You do not have to be a Lutheran to come and enjoy this. Anyone can come and enjoy the evening of readings and song. It is a way of gathering together and reflecting.”

The Jubilate Easter Vespers will be held in the Graebner Memorial Chapel on April 15th, 2015 at 8 p.m. and will last about an hour and ten minutes. The event is free and open to the public.
2015 Poehler Lecture

Continued from page 1...

Dr. Hillmer began his lecture by discussing how times have changed from when he himself was a student, and introducing his topic of the evening. "No doubt that higher education is changing at a dizzying rate. Education as we know it will be changed, in order to be saved. But will it be destroyed like the caterpillar is destroyed to create the butterfly?"

"One of the key components in managing change and preparing for the future is leadership. Much of the change that we are currently experiencing is fueled not only by educational and technological forces, but others far beyond our can or control. The advent of for-profit entities and our government’s ‘one size fits all’ response, has complicated our task considerably [...]The crisis of our own making is that, for years we have differed the growing issue of affordability. While politicians have ignored the reductions of support for education and the middle class.”

"The situation in which we now find ourselves is placing and will continue to place pressures on the quality—and even the fundamental definition—of higher education.”

Hillmer quoted George Orwell; “Those who control the present, control the past and those who control the past control the future.” Hillmer discussed the object of power and materialism and how Christians often believe that everything they have—God meant for them to have. In his lecture, Hillmer stated, “All too often, we believe we are meant to have our way.” This materialism has taken over many parts and ideals of the Christian faith. He said that, “These impulses [of having material possessions], as natural as they are, are anti-Christian, and anti-higher education.”

“The will to live quickly becomes the will to power.” Hillmer further explained how the idea of how power is the increasing central object of education. He affirmed that power is not bad in its own right, but in his corollary to 1 Timothy 6:10, he considered that the love of power is the root of all kinds of evil. Hillmer reasoned his speech about power by affirming that “colleges and universities have moved from an era of partnership in decision making to one of increasing centralization.”

Hillmer went on to discuss the problems with career-oriented and money-oriented universities, including the changing careers, majors, job dissatisfaction, etc., problems that college students and graduates know all too well. Hillmer also mentioned the money-oriented news, politics, and media. Things that are now synonymous with power. Hillmer solemnly stated that despite the prevalent problems of power and money in politics, the news and media, and in our universities, Christians are mostly silent. “In a society where power—primarily expressed through money and repetition— are destroying our ability, even our desire, to think critically deeply, and compassionately—about anything.”

“The liberal arts are the connective tissue that holds everything together and helps, everything make sense. In my universe, any message, any text, is only as important as its context, its subtext, and its pretext.”

Posing many questions, discussing many issues and viewpoints, Hillmer admits that he has no answer to his questions but offers his opinion on how things may get better. 1 Corinthians chapter 13. Love, respect, and resisting the urge to make the ideas of others abstract.

Hillmer ended with the bible verse inscribed proudly on the outside wall of Concordia’s library Proverbs 16:16, “How much better to get wisdom than gold, to choose understanding rather than silver.” Hillmer concluded with, “Not a day goes by, that I am not reminded of, and grateful for the tremendous privilege I’ve been given to be a learner, a scholar, a teacher, and a colleague alongside a truly inspiring group of people here at Concordia University.”

Thanks and recognition was given to many by Dr. Hillmer and President Reis. The series is named in honor of the Rev. Dr. Willy August Poehler, Concordia’s president from 1946 to 1970. The Poehler Lecture Series is made possible by donations, various gifts, and by Concordia’s colleges.

To watch the entire lecture you may visit, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OiggowUeWMI.

UMOJA Spotlight

By Katrina Bell

UMOJA, standing for United Minds of Joined Action, is a club at Concordia that aims to foster academic achievement and service, address issues and concerns affecting students of color, promote an understanding and appreciation of cultural differences and create unity among students of multi-cultural heritage within Concordia University and the surrounding community.

UMOJA has been very involved in the events at Concordia this past year. In the beginning of the year, they hosted a Welcome Back Barbecue, co-hosted by CHUSA. This event was held in the Knoll and provided fun games, great food, and a chance to start off the fall semester with meeting new people.

UMOJA was also very involved in February, Black History Month. Throughout the month, UMOJA held and organized many events promoting equality and understanding of our diversified culture. UMOJA hosted a movie night in the underground of the chapel featuring the film Dear White People, on Feb. 5th. Refreshments were provided and there was a discussion after the movie. The event “Media Representation & the Impact on Black Men and Boys: an application of critical race theory” was held on Feb. 11th in the BEC. This event was led by Donnay Green, UMOJA co-advisor. UMOJA also held their annual Black Out Dance on Feb. 20th. Unfortunately, this event was not as successful as it has been in the past years. Held in the Student Life Center, the music, without a DJ, left much to be desired, and attendance was less than fifteen people, resulting in the event almost being shut down within an hour. UMOJA hosted chapel once during Black History Month, which was accompanied by the Shades of Harmony Multicultural Gospel choir.

UMOJA also hosts open mic nights. For open mic, UMOJA presents an opportunity for students and community members to showcase their talents, present spoken word, and to share other forms of art. These evenings are a celebration of equality, diversity and heritage and people are encouraged to provide acts of that nature, but UMOJA is welcoming of anything.

UMOJA’s goal is to promote diversity and connectedness within the Concordia campus and surrounding communities. All are welcome and encouraged to join.

UMOJA consists of about 25 active members and meets every other week from 6 to 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Naajee Dennis at dennisn@csp.edu or umoja@csp.edu.
Female Athlete of the Month
Ester Jandrich: Wired for Greatness
By Jakob Kounkel

Nationally ranked pole vaulter (11), Esther Jandrich, has been nominated for Female Athlete of the Month. Jandrich has a background in gymnastics throughout high school, and in her last two years of high school decided to join track and field where she became cultured in her sport. She dabbled in sprinting, hurdling, shot-put and triple jump at her high school in Forest Lake, MN, and didn’t decide to specialize until her freshman year of college. Jandrich tried pole vaulting, and it quickly turned into a passion for her. She made nine feet in her first collegiate meet, and by the end of the year, she turned that into ten feet and seven inches. During her sophomore year, she broke the school record at eleven feet and ten inches, and qualified for nationals for the first time. Her current personal record (P.R.) is twelve feet and ten and a half inches, and hoping to reach thirteen feet soon, as well as trying to obtain All-American honors. It was clear to her and everybody around her that she had a niche for pole vaulting, but nobody knew she was going to become nationally ranked after specializing in just her freshman year. After an injury during her junior year and deciding to obtain a medical redshirt, she is now in her fifth year at Concordia, shooting for top eight in national seeding. Nobody has any doubt that she can accomplish her goal, and after talking to her for twenty minutes, I have no doubt either. Jandrich is wired for hard work, dedication and passion. In high school, she won the Ranger Award—an award given out to the athlete that the team voted as the hardest worker, which speaks even more for her commitment to the sport.

When asked about her highlights in college thus far, Jandrich said, “I’m just really proud to be a part of this whole process.” Jandrich has a lot of pride in her team and coaches, and puts a lot of trust in them. She’s more proud of her team than she is of any personal record she has achieved, and has enjoyed watching her team progress over her five years at Concordia.

When she’s at home, Jandrich is the youngest of eight kids with four brothers and three sisters. None of them have ever competed in collegiate sports, but she described her family as being supportive in her pursuit and proud of her. Jandrich claims that her family has a huge influence on her life, and she has a lot of respect for them. Jandrich said, “We’re really tight. They’re really proud of me.”

The initial reason Jandrich came to Concordia was because of her thirst for competition—she didn’t want to be done competing, and she knew that she would get good competition at a division two school in a highly competitive conference. When asked about her appeal to Concordia, she said, “The art department was really cool, and I met some of the professors and they were just really weird, and I liked that.” She also found when she went to school that she loves the small community, and she likes being close to her family. “It all just worked out really well,” Jandrich said, “I have no doubt it was part of the plan that God had for me because I was shooting in the dark. Over the last several years I’ve realized everything was perfect.”

When asked to give advice for student athletes she said, “To break it down, figure out how hard you want to work. If you’re doing it for fun, that’s awesome and you can still be competitive in that sense, but if you’re really committed, you have to figure out your priorities. Figuring out your nutrition and sleeping habits is a really big thing I started doing. Aside from all the training that goes into it, you have to figure out how you’re going to compete. You could have all the training in the world, but if you don’t know how you function under pressure or how you handle nerves, you’re not going to be able to do well when you compete. Figure out how to tone it down, or amp it up.”

Jandrich is a studio art major at Concordia, but just like track and field, she had to try just about everything before she decided to specialize. Her passion in the classroom is three-dimensional art, and she has a show April 6th through the 17th.
Male Athlete of the Month
Andrew Gilhart: Full Speed Ahead

By Karina Schlecht

For some people, it takes years to figure out what you love to do, and for others it comes early. For senior Andrew Gilhart, it came in sixth grade during a fun run. He continued running both track and cross country in seventh and eighth grade, and after making varsity his freshman year he continued both seasons all through high school. He also played baseball and basketball in high school, making him a three-sport athlete, but since he received the opportunity to continue running in college, he decided to give it a shot. In March he ran the 3000-meter race in the NCIS Indoor Track and Field Championships. His time of 10:04:11 placed him right behind his teammates Sam Anderson and Tyler Karl. Their placements of 20th, 21st, and 22nd earned them a fifth place team finish.

Gilhart also earned a spot on the NCIS All-Academic team this school year. Being a student-athlete can be overwhelming at times, but Gilhart has clearly coped well. He says, “It’s a lot of time management skills, being able to get up on your own in the morning and get runs in when you need to, and then just making sure you get to practice on time – get your work done.” He also does morning workouts in the dome two days a week with his team, which opens up the afternoons and evenings for homework, friend time, and usually another run as well.

That’s a lot of running for someone who doesn’t enjoy it, but for Gilhart, getting away from everything is why he loves it. He says that he enjoys being outside and having good conversations with his teammates while running, but he also likes to be alone and just be out in nature. He has seen consistent improvement throughout his four years here, which he attributes to trusting his training and getting in the miles that he needs, and enjoying the run is certainly to his advantage considering the number of miles he logs.

Gilhart is majoring in psychology at Concordia and, after graduating in May, will start courses next fall at Adler University in Chicago in pursuit of a Masters of Arts and Counseling with Sports and Health Psychology. Although he didn’t visit Concordia until late in his senior year of high school, he says he is really happy he chose to come here: “It’s been an enriching college experience with athletics and growing closer to God.” He notes that he would not be as close to God as he is now if he had chosen to attend a public university, and he feels he has been blessed to have the opportunity to run in college.

Men’s Basketball

By Tony Kohanek

The 2014-2015 Men’s Basketball season has officially come to an end and it was certainly an eventful season. This was the first season for Head Coach Joey James at Concordia St. Paul and his first year as a head coach at a DII program having served one year as interim head coach back in South Dakota for the Coyotes before choosing to come to CU.

The season started off fairly well with the first month’s record ending at 3-2 with two of those wins coming at home in front of the CU crowd. This was also the same record the 2013-2014 season got started. December came rolling in, like the snow, and the team went 3-3 in December, the first month of NSIC (Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference) play. This was a major improvement over 2013-2014 seasons where the team went 0-5 for December. At the end of 2014, CU held an overall record of 6-5 and a conference record of 3-3. Compared to 2013-2014 season, the team was at 3-8.

January of 2015 is where the season really got hot as the men’s team ended up going 8-2, including an overtime win against Northern State, at Northern State. Compared to last year, the team went 3-6. Hence the 2014-2015 team ended January 14-7 overall and 11-5 in the conference. The 2013-2014 team at that same point in time was at 6-16 before February started up.

February was the last month of the regular season before conference tournament started up at tail-end of that month. This year’s team finished off the year with a 4-3 regular season end, winning its last 3 in a row. Compared with last year’s team who went 2-5, which included a 90-95 overtime loss at Sioux Falls in the final regular season game.

The NSIC tournament started on February 25th and had CU at home vs. St. Mary’s. Winner of this contest would advance to the quarterfinals to face Northern State. The 2013-2014 team lost in this round to MSU-Moorhead by four points. However, this year’s 2014-2015 squad beat U of Mary by 13 points and went on to face Northern State to which we would lose by to 11.

This season had a lot of places where the team improved over last year’s squad, now the goal is to keep pushing, and striving to be better as well as fill the productivity lost by the graduating class.
Women’s Basketball Update

By Tony Kohanek

The 2014–2015 Women’s Basketball season has officially come to an end, and it was an eventful season. Coming off an incredible end to last year’s (2013–2014) season, with the team reaching the quarterfinals in the NCAA Championship tournament, the fact that this year’s team did not receive a bid to the tournament seemed like a let down. However, the season wasn’t too disappointing.

The season started off fairly well with the first month’s record being 4–2, with 3 of those wins coming at home in front of the home crowd and one coming in an overtime win vs Northern Michigan. At this point in last year’s season, we were at 5–2 so just had one more game and win. December is the first full month of conference play. This year’s team struggled and went just 2–3 in the first month of NSIC (Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference) play. In comparison to last year, which they went 4–1 for the month of December which, put the 2014–2015 teams record so far at 6-5 in comparison to last year’s 2013–2014 team going 9–3 by the same point that year.

January is where the season can get intense. This year, the women went 5–5, which brings their overall record up to 11–10. Last year’s team went 7–2 with an overtime win against Augustana, which improved their overall record to 16–5.

February was the last month of the regular season before conference tournaments started up at tail end of the month. This year’s team finished off the year with a 4–3 February and a final loss in double overtime to Sioux Falls. Compared with the 2013–2014 team, who went 5–2 with a two game winning streak to close out the regular season.

The NSIC tournament started on February 25th and had CU playing at Minnesota Crookston and lost 62–63. Last year’s team won the NSIC tournament and won an automatic bid into the Championship tournament where they made it to the quarter-finals and lost.

This season had a lot of places where it could have made improvements, however, the team will now have time to make improvements before the next season.

No More Disney, Watch CNN

When should children start watching the news?

By Megan Johnson

Let me set the scene: it’s 7 o’clock in the morning on a Saturday and I’m at my kitchen table sipping coffee, made by yours truly, while watching the news. Enter my youngest brother dressed as Superman — totally typical — he pops a squat in the breakfast nook next me. “Megan, you need to turn off the TV,” he says to me as he dramatically blocks his view of the TV screen with his hand. Logically, I asked him “why?” The next words out of his mouth are the reason why I am writing this column: “I’m too young.”

This baffled me. In my eyes, the news is just as important as banks. They both accumulate resources, money vs. information, then they distribute those resources to the public. So why shouldn’t everyone, yes everyone, indulge in a newspaper at least once a week? Well there are always two sides to story, so let’s dive in! Obviously, starting with the intelligent stance: mine.

I’ll begin with the fact that even if parents shelter their children from the world of news, they are still going to be exposed to the “gnarly” facts. Here is an excerpt from a Children Now article:

“Consider the opportunities kids have to be exposed to the news... Perhaps you read the newspaper at the breakfast table. Remember, while you’re reading an article on page seven, your kids may be staring at the front page headlines. You might watch the evening news while helping your kids with their homework. Or they may be exposed to a “newsflash” during their favorite TV show.

Children Now is self-described as a nonpartisan, independent voice for children based in California, working to translate the nation’s commitment to children and families into action. They thoroughly back up what I was saying about children finding information everywhere. Sure it all may sound pretty extreme, but personally I would rather have my little siblings hearing about ISIS from me than some bully at school trying to scare them. At least, that way I could throw in a couple jokes to lighten the mood. “Is making a joke even possible when talking about terrorism, Megan?” Anything is possible young ones, anything.

My second point as to why we should demolish children’s idyllic bubbles of hope before middle school, is simply put: so they can be smart. Isn’t that every parent’s goal? To have a brilliant nine year old who can do math stuff that they could never be able to do? Well, it’s proven that understanding events occurring worldwide can help students do well in school. Have I caught your attention yet? So let me explain, kids these days, myself included, need critical thinking skills and what does the news provide for our moldable minds? Critical thinking skills.

Larry Magid, a journalist for CNET, explains that my generation “no longer live[s] in a world where a man like Walter Cronkite can tell us the way it is.” In other words, we don’t have just one source of reliable information so we have to rely, instead, on our... you guessed it: critical thinking skills. The moral of this story — or at least this paragraph — is that watching the news develops these necessary skills that are ultra important when learning about Christopher Columbus in middle school.

OK, you’ve made it to the opposition side of this article. I know you must be thinking “what other side could there be? What could shine a light to Megan’s intelligent points?” Well let me break it to you, someone people still think that children need to hold on to their innocence. I mean, why shouldn’t they be exposed to graphic TV news every night starting at the ripe age of six? I guess they’ve got a point there. With the rise of the mega power coined: the media, it only makes sense that the ugly come with the brilliant. By ugly of course I mean: death, nudity, and the worst of all, politics. I suppose it does make sense that children should hold on to their idyllic bubble of hope until middle school because after that bubble is popped, there is no going back. That’s what old saying? You can never “unsee” something?

Now that you’re officially heard all of the different angles to this dilemma, I will leave you with this: children should start watching the news at the beginning of middle school. Just to make sure they aren’t going into “the school years that matter,” ignorant. However, like I said, it’s completely up to you. Y’know, if you want to shelter your kids until they’re 18, that’s your prerogative.
Breaking Hearts

Why is there an Increase in Sports Injuries?

By Michael Limmel

The phone rings. I picked it up. It’s the doctor with the results of my MRI. It’s taking forever when he finally says; “I have to the results from your MRI.” My heart stopped beating while I waited to hear what the results were. Then he speaks the most heart-breaking sentence you could ever hear as an athlete, “I’m sorry, but you have torn your ACL.” Boom! Your heart falls down deep inside your chest.

Sports have been played for generations, and will continue to be played for years. With sports, come injuries. If you put stress on your body something is bound to go wrong. Over the past 40 years, the amount of injuries has been increasing amongst athletes, and people are blaming anything they can find. There are a couple of logical reasons for the increase in sports injuries.

First reason for an increase is, the number of kids playing sports. According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, the number of athletes has been increasing for 25 consecutive years. In 2013-2014, there was an estimated 7.8 million high school athletes, an increase of 82,081 athletes from the previous year. Numbers are also increasing because more athletes are starting to play at a younger age. In my hometown, Minnetonka has tackle football leagues for kids that are in the first grade. What are they thinking? There is no way a kid that age can understand how to tackle properly in order to protect themselves and others. Another problem that arises with starting kids when they are young is the overuse of muscles. Some girls that play volleyball so much that without proper rest they may harm the muscles in their shoulders and arms. The third reason for an increase in injuries is due to athletes getting bigger and stronger. In my high school, football players took supplements that helped them build muscle. In the NFL today, scouts look for linebackers with speed and quick reaction times. The combination of speed and agility makes for a dangerous combination.

Another reason is today’s youth don’t get enough “natural conditioning.” “Natural conditioning” occurred when the older generations of people were kids; they played outside just about everyday. Children now, come home from school and jump on the PlayStation, Xbox, Wii, or sit on the couch to watch TV. Playing outside every chance they got, naturally conditioned kids physically. Some of the most common injuries today are sprains, muscle pulls, and minor aches and pains. All of which can be prevented by conditioning today’s athletes.

How can athletes better condition their bodies? The easiest way is by hitting the weight room. Most high school and college teams have designated lifting practices. These practices help build the muscles that the athlete need to compete and prevent injury.

What about concussions? Not all of concussions are preventable, depending on what sport you play. If you play football or hockey concussions are very likely to occur. If you educate the players on how to hit properly you may prevent some, but even if players are educated and know how to hit correctly, concussions can still happen. Then what about ligament tears? There is one thing you can hope for, and that is that your body is well conditioned and luck is on your side. Ligament tears happen from twisting and bending motions. The two physics don’t work together.

With sports come injuries. The best thing you can do is prepare by conditioning. Injuries will happen, but if you don’t want to get the call from your doctor telling you that you’re injured, take the time and prepare your body for the stress that it is about to endure, and hope that you never have to be on the receiving end of one of those calls.

Do you like to Write? Are you in Photography or Design?

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Meeting are every Wednesday from 5:30-6:00 in Luther 119. For more information, contact Charles Hines at hinesc@csp.edu.
By Katrina Bell

Many people really dislike athletes who think that they can do whatever they want because of how good they are. These athletes always appear to get away with anything because they are athletically gifted. It’s hard to argue that sports does not make people cocky. If someone was really good at a sport and knows they have a good future playing that sport, their head inflates a lot. One doesn’t see those golden boy athletes anymore. The Tim Tebrows who bring class to the games they play have been replaced by players like Johnny Manziel, the kind of player who loves attention way too much and everyone knows it. In his first preseason game, he was caught on camera making an obscene gesture to the other team’s bench. This was his first real game in the NFL, preseason or otherwise. He was known through college as a party boy, with multiple scandals that the NCAA got involved in. Yet he only got one suspension his whole two year college career and it was for one half of a game. The worst part about it was, he was a crowd pleaser. The fans loved the party boy reputation and the money signs he would make after every score. So when he decided to enter the NFL draft, it was no surprise that fans of any team looking for a quarterback were pleading to their general managers to draft him. Many of these general managers were scared of the failure his antics could cause him to be.

His talent became a small part in the show that is Johnny Manziel. When the end of the year came, Manziel threw a party with multiple teammates attending. The party became big news and soon ESPN began to have debates about it. The attention Manziel attracts is widespread. How can someone this distracted be able to go out and play well in a professional environment? Being a quality player in the NFL takes a lot more than talent. One is left with the impression that many players aren’t ready to be in the NFL and Manziel serves as proof of this. His season was anything but successful as he started two games, both ending in a loss with multiple costly interceptions.

The upcoming draft has another interesting player up for debate. His name is definitely up with Manziel’s, as they’ve both had very similar college careers. They both left college after their sophomore years and they both won Heisman trophies as redshirt freshmen. Jameis Winston, Florida State’s quarterback, has had multiple incidents in the past two years. He was issued a citation for stealing seafood and was suspended for jumping on a table in a public place yelling an obscene phrase. He sounds as if he’s still a high school student, not someone going into the NFL to be the face of an organization. New athletes becoming professionals are now more like celebrities than players and it’s becoming a large problem. There needs to be a new player to come out who can actually be a role model. An athlete like Tim Tebow could have been a lasting role model, but unfortunately he’s not an NFL player anymore. Still, there needs to be someone who scores a touchdown and reacts as a professional, not making obscene gestures to the opposing team or acting entitled enough to steal crab legs from a supermarket.

By Bailey Thompson

While surfing the web a few days back, I stumbled across a website devoted to promoting eating disorders in young girls. Sickened but curious, I couldn’t look away; this website was cluttered with photos of models who were seen as overweight. For example, this site showed a photo of Kate Upton, a famous supermodel, eating a hamburger while in a bathing suit. The photos she did with a hamburger in her mouth labeled her as a disgusting role model who was unhealthy and fat. The site also included tips on how to stay skinny in the unhealthiest way possible.

When did it become being skinny rather than being healthy? When a person is reaching for health, weight loss sometimes comes along with it, when, whether through exercise or eating right, the body naturally slims. But when striving to be strictly skinny rather than healthy, people are jeopardizing their health and possibly their lives. So why isn’t being healthy a bigger statement than the desire to be skinny?

Celebrities and models are observed several times a day through television, magazines, or the simple billboard passed without a second thought, or so we think. Our subconscious minds are examining these images whether we are aware or not, and we process these images and compare ourselves to them. Do we consider Photoshop when looking at ads? Or do we consider the unhealthy lifestyle that could be following the 5’11” runway models who weigh only 110 pounds? Not, we do not see these effects nor do we consider them, all society cares about is imitating the people we unfortunately put on a pedestal.

One question we must ask ourselves is the way these celebrities are so slim, and if we want to achieve “skinny” in the same unhealthy way. Aside from unhealthy actions, celebrities have all sorts of methods to keep their physique looking great, but their methods are often flawed and can lead to health issues. For example, waist trainer corsets are used by several famous women. This is a method used to tighten the waist by keeping it constantly pulled together by a corset. Sounds easy enough, right? Well, what we are not seeing is the body’s organs, and doctors say that this new fad is destroying them, specifically the intestines. Another diet fad would be juicing, which is when all a person drinks is fruit and vegetable juices. By participating in this diet, the body loses some of the most important food groups it needs to be healthy, such as protein. The only way to achieve true health is through a healthy diet and exercising regularly, but people are being influenced by all the other methods they see society promoting.

I am not saying that every person is hurting themselves in order to look like their favorite celebrity, but confidence is certainly played with. I have seen many people doubt their bodies and even cry over perfection, but where did this mindset come from and how do we put an end to this constant self-hatred?

In a time when obesity has skyrocketed and fast food restaurants are on the corner of every block, our society seems more focused on how to stop young children from gaining weight and less focused on the people who need to gain weight (in a healthy manner, of course). Dove Soap Company has launched several campaigns on true beauty. These type campaigns have caught my attention and the attention of several like me. The more we open our eyes to natural beauty, the more willing people will be to treat their bodies with respect and avoid destructive and dangerous habits. It is important that the media, along with school and families, instills the idea that true beauty comes from within, and no extreme measures need to be taken to prove it.
By Trenton Burns

There is no debate as to the level of brutality and evil that was employed in the terrorist attack on at Charlie Hebdo last month. There should be no discussion necessary as to the senseless loss of life over something as trivial and minute as rudimentary cartoons in a relatively small weekly magazine. Many people say that this act of terrorism was an affront against one of the basic tenants of any truly democratic and free society: the freedom of speech. This is where discussion and debate is necessary.

While the events in France could be (and are by far too many people) viewed in black and white terms, i.e., Freedom of Speech v. an ideology of subjugation and control, I think it has another component to it, which is that of the inevitable consequence of freedom of speech. Now, my use of the word consequence should not be interpreted as a condoning or approval of violence. It is merely the sad reality of the world we live in. Our planet is one of clashing cultures, no more so prevalent than in Europe with an ever-increasing population of Muslim immigrants. As much as a vehemently secular France would want to remain as it is, there is fast approaching a time when the vox populi may no longer be represented by the laws of the land and the deeply rooted values and moral /religious beliefs of a new generation of French citizens (and Europeans in general) move from minority to majority.

So what’s to be done in a world where everyone’s threshold for what they find to be offensive is different? Do we continue exercising our right to express ourselves as we see fit (while remaining within the legal confines of the law), even if others see that expression as deeply offensive and or deliberately inflammatory? In a word, yes. As soon as we give up ground in that area, it will be those with the power that choose our words for us; other freedoms will soon follow. The one unspoken or assumed freedom that we need to be rid of is this cancerous idea of one’s right to not be offended.

To anyone, I would say, “So what if you take offense at something?” We live in a world of roughly seven billion people who have, what is for all practical purposes, an infinite spectrum of beliefs and values, all of which are subjective in the sense that they are their own. It is an absurd notion, nay, an impossible notion, that anyone should expect that they have a right to not run into an idea or situation that they don’t find offensive. I find all sorts of things offensive. Days after the events in France, there was a cartoon circulating on Reddit (one of the world’s largest Internet forums and news aggregates) depicting Jesus Christ on the cross in an obscene way. As a Christian, I found it offensive. In terms of mere shock value, I think it was far more gratuitus than any depiction of Muhammad in Charlie Hebdo (though I am also not a Muslim, and what people find offensive is subjective). But in the end, so what if I am offended? Being offended doesn’t magically grant me or anyone else special authority to quell another person’s right to express their opinion. Too many people assume that to be offended is to be superior, and that because they have taken offense at something, they are a victim, and therefore, in a morally superior position. What nonsense.

But if the argument ended there, which it too often does, we make little progress in the matter. There comes a certain amount of responsibility with the freedom of speech, just like with any other freedom or right. A common example of this is that just because we have the First Amendment in our U.S. Constitution doesn’t mean we can or should go into a crowded building and start shouting “Fire! Fire!” and instigating a potentially dangerous stampede of panicked people. The attacks on Charlie Hebdo were tragic. But were they truly a surprise to anyone, as sad and depressing, as that might be to admit?

Those cartoons were a direct challenge to an ideology held by a group of people that continue to, bloody day after bloody day, demonstrate the lengths to which they will go to fight for what they believe in. What does a secular France believe in? Silly cartoons? Is that what people are willing to die doing in their fight against Islamic extremism? Is that bravery or is it stupidity? Maybe it’s both. But it would serve all of us well to employ a modicum of wisdom when we open our mouths or put our pens to paper. Ask yourselves questions: What am I trying to say? Does it need to be said? Am I willing to face whatever consequences (whether they be reasonable or unreasonable) come of it? If your answer is yes, then you have this writer’s full support, regardless of whether or not I find your message offensive.
Thanks A Latté
A Guide to Correct Café Protocol

By Lydia Detweiler

"TAKE YOUR STINKING ATTITUDE AND GET OUT OF HERE, JERK!"

The Twin Cities have a massive coffee culture; innumerable cafes dot the cities, and countless coffee lovers gleefully relish their dreams coming true. Sadly, the very real cries and complaints of café employees have reached my ears, and I have accepted the task of advocacy as a fellow colleague (I work at Fireroast Café in Longfellow neighborhood). Customers, the following list is not meant to chastise you, but to educate you on what to do to avoid outbursts such as the one above. Please, do NOT do the following things in any café:

1. Order only coffee and proceed to sit at a booth for four hours using the Internet and taking up coveted space from customers who order substantially more (eg: food).
2. Not order anything, period.
3. Mess with the mixing table.
   - Pour out your liquid into the small trash receptacle (on the table).
   - Use up all the cream and sugar to make yourself a latté instead of paying for one (it’s even more frustrating when you don’t tell anyone that something need replenishing after you’ve used it all).
   - Spill sugar (or anything) all over and walk away without either trying to clean it up as best as you can, or letting a staff member know that there’s a mess.
4. Place all of your trash in the bus tubs provided when the trash cans are three inches away.
5. Breathe down the barista’s neck (if there’s one thing that I regularly hear my coworkers talk about, it’s customers that stand and glare at us while we work on their food/drink. Contrary to popular belief, it won’t make us go faster).
6. Expect everyone to know your order, whether or not they’ve served you before.
7. Ignore the person who is taking your order and immediately start ordering after they have greeted you (from personal experience, this is insulting and embarrassing).
8. Order food that’s not on the menu board, and then get frustrated when you’re told that it cannot be made for you (too often I have to be the bearer of unnecessary bad news).
9. Walk in, then leave (for any reason).
10. Be demeaning (don’t pretend you don’t know when you are).

Here are four simple things that you CAN do:
1. Smile.
2. Ask the café workers how they’re doing.
3. Keep your space generally clean.
4. Thank everyone for the product they work hard perfecting for you.

We’re all human. Every one of us knows what it feels like to feel small, offended, and hurt. No one can truthfully say they like feeling that way. Inversely, every one of us knows how effortless a smile is. We can all testify to a moment when a smile brightened a dreary day. As café workers, we desire to provide a comfortable, clean, and relaxing environment, as well as the excellent products that our customers desire. We work like mad men to make your wishes a reality. But please recognize that we make mistakes and that miscommunication will, undoubtedly, happen. We appreciate every one of you, but we do not always appreciate how you act and treat us. All we ask is that you respond to our faults with the respect we deserve. We’re not asking for much (these lists are much shorter than they could be). Just be considerate. Thank you, from your café employees across the Twin Cities.

Music Spotlight
Rachel Lindemann

By Karina Schlecht

“Obviously practice, cause, obviously.” Rachel Lindemann’s response to advice for young performance majors seems obvious to any musician out there, but she is living proof that practice is what it takes. “You have to really want it, and you have to really love it.” Lindemann is a senior vocal performance major with a theater minor, and though she’s changed majors and minors a few times, vocal performance has always remained part of the picture. She started down this path because she absolutely loves music and singing, and she did a lot of singing and theater in high school. Her middle school choir director told her to audition for a national honor choir, and she made it, along with the honors choir she auditioned for in high school, all of which Lindemann says, “built a level of confidence.”

She decided to attend Concordia because it is a small, private school with a great location, and she saw more opportunities presented to her here than at other private colleges. Since being here, Lindemann has left her mark on Christus Chorus, on the Concert Band playing trombone, on the stage acting, dancing, and singing, and on the STAGE club board as the Vice President. She says she has liked the private attention she gets in smaller classes, but she feels as though Concordia could offer more classes that pertain to her major: “You get theory and history, but that’s kind of all you get.” Despite the lack of classes offered, the fact that there are only five performance majors has helped open the door to more performance opportunities.

After graduating in May, Lindemann plans to stay around Saint Paul for a while to audition in the Cities, but she also says it "would be cool in the future to do a little stint out [in New York] cause I think everyone should at least try it out." Broadway is not her end-goal by any means, as the cost of living in New York is much higher than the Twin Cities, creating the need for a second job that takes away time from auditioning and getting roles. She says that it would be "good to try it out there, but it’s also really great here." She also hopes to go to grad school at some point.

If you want to see Lindemann in action, you can come to her senior recital on April 25 at 1 p.m. in the Buettow Auditorium. If you miss that, you can always catch her in the practice rooms in the music building – and one day, on the big stages of the Twin Cities and New York City.
Amber Schmidt Art Exhibition
“Bold Beauty”

By Katrina Bell

Organic in theme, Amber Schmidt’s senior exhibition was a blend of paintings and ceramics in various sizes that rotated around her theme, entitled “Bold Beauty.” Her exhibit was detail oriented and “naturally” with paintings and ceramics that were “plantlike,” and full of movement.

The show was mostly nature in forms. Schmidt stated, “I know, as a person, what they mean to me, but I want people to get their own idea of what they think of it themselves. I want to see what they see, before I would tell them, ‘this is what I see.’ My forms are organic and I want people to form their own opinions on it.”

Schmidt spoke about her work and the exhibit itself. She said, “My painting style is kind of automatic, and the painting itself in a way tells you what it wants, what it needs, whether it’s the color used or additional details that need to be placed within the piece itself.”

What made the exhibit so unique was, as Schmidt admitted, hours of work, the intricate detail and sheer length of the piece was both bold and beautiful. Other pieces, such as A Breath, one of her ceramic pieces, brazenly displayed the organic feel of the exhibit.

Schmidt’s pieces varied in media. She used ceramic, charcoal, ink, acrylic, photography, food coloring, fabric, and more. Schmidt managed to create a flow of colors and ideas through curls, swirls, and natural movement, “revealing to [viewers] either a memory or a deep thought, guiding them to inspiration.” The exhibit also invited viewers to enter into the world in each painting or ceramic created, and to lose themselves in an aesthetic experience.

Schmidt’s exhibit ran March 16th to March 27th. She completed her exhibition with the statement, “I would like to dedicate my senior art show to my art professors, family and friends, and I would like to thank everyone for coming to my show.”
Concert Band Tour

By Katrina Bell

From Friday March 6th to Tuesday March 10th, The Concordia University Concert band traveled to Wisconsin and Illinois, performing at five different venues in four days. The Concert Band is made up of 40 people with focus on creative expression through performance. The band stresses leadership, fellowship, community, and independent thinking.

Concert Band is directed by Aaron Isakson, who also teaches conducting, percussion, and other classes. As for the success of the tour, Isakson says, "I thought it was very successful. We were greeted very warmly by all of the congregations that we encountered, and everyone was really excited about the music that we played and excited to get to know our students."

Isakson states, "We did a concert with Tomah High School in Tomah, Wisconsin. That was our first stop. At the end of the concert, there were more than 100 players on stage, because we combined to play through the Washington Post March by John Philip Sousa, our encore piece." The band performed songs about World War II, old logging camps, folk music, and other spiritual pieces.

The band traveled by bus to a selection of churches and schools, where members participated in various homestays. Isakson claims, "One highlight was, when we played in St. Matthews Lutheran Church in Hawthorn Woods, Illinois — that is the home of Matthew Kinne, and that’s his father’s church — so [Kinne] was able to perform, conduct a piece, and he arranged a couple of the hymns for the band to play. So I feel like that was a great homecoming for him and that was definitely a highlight for me."

The band had about three hours of free time in Chicago on Sunday evening. Most of the members went to try some of Chicago’s famous deep-dish pizza at Giordano’s, and many of the band members also visited Water Tower Place in Chicago. Others went to visit parts of Millennium Park and the sculpture known as “The Bean.”

Prof. Isakson and everyone else enjoyed the tour, although it was very fast-paced. Isakson says, "I would just like to say that the Concordia students worked together to solve the problems that we encountered on the tour — and really worked hard to get along together on the bus ride and the overnight stays — so that everyone felt a part of the group and welcome. I thought that everyone came together and helped each other out and got to know each other better."

The concert band had their Band Tour Home Concert on March 24th.

Shades of Harmony Gospel Choir Concert

By Katrina Bell

On April 23rd, Concordia will be hosting its 6th annual Shades of Harmony Multicultural Gospel Choir Concert.

"Gospel choir is basically a style of music that incorporates an urban feel of music with praising God. Gospel music is very spirit-filled and energetic, and that is what we want to bring. We want to show soul and spirit and rhythm. That is the type of energy that we want to expel out when we perform," says Andrew Griffin, director of Shades of Harmony. For the past seven years, Griffin has been directing the choir, and he has been accompanied for the last five years by the talented Taylor Hamilton. The choir’s repertoire consists of music that is both uplifting and soulful.

Shades of Harmony is made up approximately ten people, and they will be singing in sections throughout the concert. They will also be joined by guest artists. Last year, the Shades of Harmony Choir had special guests Javonta Patton and Tonia Hughes. This year, Andrew Griffin is hoping to have James Grear and Company, The Excelsior Choir, and others attend the evening. Other churches, solo artists, and other choirs are invited and encouraged to attend.

The audience will be free to worship along with the singers during at least one of the songs, including a crowd favorite, “Friend of God.” Every year, Griffin walks around inspiring those present to worship with the singers. He says, “The purpose for the concert is for this to be a community event at Concordia. We would love students from Concordia to come and worship with us. Please come out and support.”

All are welcome and encouraged to attend this free event. It is open to the public and will be held in the Graebner Memorial Chapel on April 23rd at 8:00 p.m. It will be about an hour and a half. It is free, but there will be a free-will offering. Following the concert will be followed by a short reception with refreshments.

For more information on this music performance and others at CSP, please visit http://finearts.csp.edu/music/
Spring Into Dance

By Cassandra Shaw

Being a dancer takes a lot of dedication and consistency. It isn’t just something to do, but it can turn into a meaningful piece of art that can tell a beautiful story. This year at the third Annual Spring Into Dance Concert, different dance styles will be included, such as modern, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and two new ones, ballroom and swing. The choreographers for this year are Bethany Brandvold, Elisabeth Coats, Kayla Eastman, Jordyn Joens, Devin McCauley, Christina Miller, Quang Nguyen, Nick Schroepfer, Madeline Swain, The Swing Group, Laura Taranto, Libby Ulm, and Alex Wright. Another highlight of the show will be the CSP Jubilate Choir, directed by Shari Speer.

Spring Into Dance started in the spring of 2013 with Jan Puffer, a dance instructor who teaches Intro to Dance, Choreography/Composition, Tap, and other classes. She says, “I wanted to showcase all our talented dancers and choreographers.” The students that attended her classes took the techniques they learned and put them into a performance for the concert.

Auditions for choreography were held in January, and auditions for dancing were held in early February. It is going to take a lot of hard work and time to put on the show, but it can be made a reality with help from Meredith Wagner, the costume designer, Anna Dauffenbach and Dylan Neils, the stage managers, Zach Humes and Paige Joosten, the lighting designers, Nick Schroepfer, the graphic designer, and other crew members.

The concert preview will be on April 23rd at 7:30 p.m. with opening night on April 24th at 7:30 p.m. Additional performances are on April 24th and 25th at 7:30 p.m. and April 26th at 2 p.m. Tickets are $10 (for adults) and $5 (for Students, Seniors, Children under 12, CSP Faculty & Staff), can be found at TicketWorks at 612-343-3390 or online at csp.edu/tickets. CSP students get in for free.

We hope there is a good outcome for the show, and good luck to the dancers and performers!

Book Review

Outlander

By Tara Rupiper

Everyone dreams of time travel, right? Have you ever wanted to travel to another time just to see what it would be like? Well, maybe it’s just me. But with Outlander, the first in a series of eight novels by Diana Gabaldon, Clair Randall makes an unintentional journey from 19th century England to 18th century Scotland. Even though Outlander was published in 1991, it is now getting the recognition it rightfully deserves through a recent T.V. adaptation on Starz, with Caitriona Balfe and Sam Heughan and as the main characters, Claire Randall and Jamie Fraser.

The novel starts out in 19th century England, right after World War II. Claire and her husband, Frank Randall, have been separated for five years while she worked as a nurse helping wounded soldiers and he was in the army. To rekindle the romance in their marriage, they decide to go on a second honeymoon to Inverness, Scotland. Once there, Claire visits a collection of large standing stones, known as Craigh na Dun, to collect plants and herbs. Oddly, she hears a faint buzzing coming from the stones and faints when she touches them.

When she awakens, she finds that she is amidst a battle between the Brits and the Scots in 18th century Scotland. She is so disoriented that when she sees a man that closely resembles her husband that she can hardly believe her eyes, but the man isn’t her husband. It is his ancestor, known in history for being a tyrant and psychopath. Thankfully, Claire is “saved” by bunch of highlander Scotsman, amongst them is the dashingly handsome Jamie Frasier. They take her on an adventure that is definitely one for the history books.

Not only is the book fascinating from a historical perspective, but it is intriguing to see a different perspective on the war waged between England and Scotland. The book also follows the complicated love triangle across time: Frank, Claire, and Jamie. This book isn’t the typical romance book found on a bookshelf. The writing is beautiful, and I would even go as far as to say it is the female equivalent of Game of Thrones. One thing that for sure got my attention was Claire and Jamie’s relationship. They seem to be effortless together, unlike her and Frank who, even though they were separated for five years, are forced and awkward. With Jamie, there is intense passion, intrigue, and adventure. I enjoyed this book so much (it is my new favorite book) I am going to give it 5 Swords out of 5.
Movie Review

**Kingsman: The Secret Service**

By Tara Rupiper

What more could anyone want in a James Bond–like movie with Colin Firth, Samuel L. Jackson, and Michael Caine? Certainly not Mr. Darcy, Nick Fury, or Alfred Pennyworth! Along with the amazing cast, this movie is a plethora of guns, high-tech umbrellas, action, comedy, and smooth men in impeccably tailored suits.

**Kingsman: The Secret Service** is originally based off a comic book called *The Secret Service* by Dave Gibbons and Mark Millar. The story follows the recruitment of a former Kingsman’s son, Gary ‘Eggsy’ Unwin (Taron Egerton), who ends up going down a bad path, even though he is very intelligent and training to be in the Royal Marines. Thankfully, Harry Hart (Colin Firth) posts bail for Eggsy after he calls the number on the back of his father’s honorary medal for dying as a Kingsman. Once Eggsy is brought to the Kingsman’s headquarters, he is immediately put into rigorous training. There are several people up for one position, and Eggsy is gunning to become a Kingsman. However, his competitors aren’t making it easy.

Meanwhile, billionaire Richmond Valentine (Samuel L. Jackson) is on a mission to steal the world’s VIP so he can, in his words “rid the world of the virus.” Instead of nature taking its course in shrinking the world’s population, Mr. Valentine wants to speed up the process. Once he steals the select VIPs, he surgically plants a microchip behind the person’s ear, leaving a scar. To kill the rest of the population, he is giving away SIM cards that will allow people free cell service and internet. What he doesn’t say is that these cards act like a mind control system where, once activated by Valentine, people around the world will start fighting each other to the death. Eggsy, Hart, and rest of the Kingsmen must work together to defeat this mastermind villain in time before the world turns on itself. Valentine is原来 based off a comic book called *The Secret Service* by Dave Gibbons and Mark Millar. The story follows the recruitment of a former Kingsman’s son, Gary ‘Eggsy’ Unwin (Taron Egerton), who ends up going down a bad path, even though he is very intelligent and training to be in the Royal Marines. Thankfully, Harry Hart (Colin Firth) posts bail for Eggsy after he calls the number on the back of his father’s honorary medal for dying as a Kingsman. Once Eggsy is brought to the Kingsman’s headquarters, he is immediately put into rigorous training. There are several people up for one position, and Eggsy is gunning to become a Kingsman. However, his competitors aren’t making it easy.

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As I watched this movie, I kept thinking to myself how weird and perfect it is. The movie has a great cast, is action-packed, and has an interesting plot with tied in comedy. It was a strange and interesting ride, that’s for sure. I loved that it was so action packed, and the awesome sight of Mr. Darcy (Colin Firth) wielding nothing but an umbrella in a bar fight, because some guys wouldn’t let him finish his Guinness in peace, was nothing short of awesome.

Not only was the acting on point, but there were a lot of funny moments as well. However, the plotline was a little off for me. I think because this movie was a little ridiculous, I took it as a parody of a classic spy or James Bond movie since it was set in the middle of London, England, and all of the Kingsmen were in nicely tailored suits. But Taron Egerton has a bright acting future ahead of him, as he was definitely was not outshined by his more experienced and popular co-stars. All in all, I think that this movie was very well done, and what makes it was the amazing cast, action, and humor. I am going to give this movie a 4 Swords out of 5.

Esther Jandrich Senior Exhibit

“Relentless Germination”

By Andrew Toelle

Concordia Senior Esther Rose Jandrich will be presenting her first public art show to the CSP community on April 6th, 2015. Esther’s show, “Relentless Germination” is a sculpture exhibition which reflects a selection of emotional events being transformed into visual objects. “My show is a capstone of my life so far. This exhibition includes a majority of things that I have learned since I became an artist at Concordia. This show has also helped me reflect on how much I have grown, both as a person and as a sculptor.”

Inside the show, there will be four sculptured portraits. Each sculpture chronologically tells a story about a significant time in Esther’s life. Each sculpture also reflects a variety of challenges and achievements in Esther’s growth. As a way to transform emotional experiences into visual objects in a unique way, Esther used plastic and other materials to complete each work. “Each sculpture was made of plastic that was melted and molded by me. I am also using hard wood flooring, metal, and steel that I manipulated. It’s kind of a nice collection using a wide range of mediums!”

Esther hopes that all of her attendants will visually experience the emotions of her work. She also hopes that while attendants observe each sculpture, they can relate their past memories with her own. “It’s kind of ambiguous and specific. Meanwhile, it is also urging you to seek out emotions, find out what makes you feel.

That’s what I’m hoping people will gain after touring this exhibition.” Esther’s senior art show “Relentless Germination” will be up in the H. Williams Teaching Gallery from April 6th to the 17th. Guests can see this collection Monday–Friday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Her closing reception will be the day after the Student Juried Show, taking place from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. The event is free and refreshments will be provided. During the exhibition, Esther will have a guest book available for visitors, giving them a chance to write feedback about Esther’s work and supporting her art career. This will give Esther more opportunities to learn new things, present her work to larger audiences, and continue to grow a positive reputation as a God blessed talent.

“I am really excited about this show; this event was a long time coming. This is the first time that I will be showing my work publicly.”

As a senior about to Graduate from Concordia this May with an Art Studio Major and a Graphic Design Minor, Esther has some advice for other students striving to build their own life capstones. “Do not sell yourself short. Make sure that you try out a lot of things. Once you find something that you are really passionate about, pursue it in as many ways as possible.”

Esther’s senior show, “Relentless Germination” is a memorable event that will be taking place this April on campus. This is an art exhibition that Concordia students, professors, and local art appreciators will look forward to see, reflect, and appreciate.
Easter Vespers Jubilate Voices

By Katrina Bell

Vespers is an evening service that is often combined with Evening Prayer in the liturgies of the canonical hours. In Lutheranism, the traditional form has varied with time and place. Martin Luther once said, “In the same way at Vespers, let them sing the Vesper Psalms with an antiphon; then a hymn, as there is opportunity.” The general formula of Vespers is a psalm reading and the response. The psalms may be sung or spoken, and the service often focuses on a topic or idea.

Prof. Shari Speer and the Jubilate Choir will lead the Easter Vespers Service. “I want the service to reflect the different kinds of worshipful experiences that we share: prayer, singing, dancing, reflecting, and praise through worship.”

Jubilate has a great deal of music that they will be performing, but despite the variety, Prof. Speer claims, “…it always comes together in a really nice, tidy sequence from beginning to end.”

The highlighted work that Jubilate will present is a piece called the Missa Brevis in D by Benjamin Britten, an exceptional and interesting piece. Consisting of four movements and a twelve tone row, Britten wrote the piece for a three part treble chorus (boys’ voices) and organ. Jubilate will sing it as a six part mixed choir. Dr. Nathan Kennedy will be Jubilate’s guest pianist, and Dr. Kristina Langlois will be performing as guest organist.

Prof. Speer adds, “Each of the pieces has a special quality to it, and I always pick the pieces based on the choir. I want the songs to be a reflection of those voices, their special qualities, and personalities.”

“It’s a nice time to reflect. The service is intended to be thoughtful and emotional. You do not have to be a Lutheran to come and enjoy this. Anyone can come and enjoy the evening of readings and song. It is a way of gathering together and reflecting.”

The Jubilate Easter Vespers will be held in the Graebner Memorial Chapel on April 16th, 2015 at 8 p.m. and will last about an hour and ten minutes. The event is free and open to the public.

EASTER wCROSSWORD

ACROSS
1) A baby sheep is called a ___
4) A mother hen watches over her baby ___
6) Which came first, the chicken or the ___?
7) April showers bring May ___
9) A mother keeps a close eye on her ___
11) The month of Easter ___
13) The Easter ___ delivers presents to children all around the world
14) This warms the earth and brings lights to the world
15) A baby ___ is called a kid

DOWN
2) Carry your Easter Eggs in a ___
3) These insects are black and yellow and sting you if you make them angry
5) ___ eggs are a common treat for all to enjoy
8) Easter is always on this day of the week
10) Easter’s season
12) In the backyard, kids can have fun by having an Easter Egg ___

By Tara Rupiper
SPRING WORD SEARCH

By Tara Rupiper

Renew  Easter  Sunday
Easter  Bunny  Chocolate
Candy   Eggs    Basket
Sunny   Showers  Flowers
Grass   Buzzing   Fresh
Growing  Newborn  Bees
Hatching Resurrection Jesus
Warm   Rainbows  Rain
Birds   Seeds    Umbrella
Spring  April

By Andrew Toelle

IT'S TIME TO PLAY BALL!