

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

TEXAS

M A G A Z I N E



A Season of Giving

WINTER 2012
VOL. 5
ISSUE 1

OUR MISSION IS TO DEVELOP CHRISTIAN LEADERS

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ON THE COVER

We have been very blessed to receive a multitude of gifts here at Concordia University Texas, both big and small. Our hope is that this magazine may be a small gift to you that brightens your new year.

The cover artwork was created by Jesse Gumtow '09.



The CTX Magazine is now available for the iPad.

Look for it in the iTunes App Store.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS

MAGAZINE

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Concordia University Texas is a private, coeducational institution of liberal arts and sciences offering undergraduate and graduate degrees. Concordia offers an Accelerated Degree Program for part-time students and adult returning students. Concordia University Texas is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is under the auspices of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

www.concordia.edu

A SEASON OF GIVING



As 2012 comes to a close and we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, I want to pause and celebrate the many blessings and gifts bestowed on Concordia in the past year.

New faculty and staff members continue to join our team, and we celebrated being named a Top Workplace for 2012 by the *Austin American-Statesman*. We celebrated as *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* aired, one year after our community of 120 volunteers helped on the build project in Smithville and presented the family with scholarships. We celebrated reports from the College Board that say Concordia's graduates have 30-40% less debt upon graduation than their private school counterparts and 11% less debt than their peers at local public institutions. We know that financial aid and scholarships contribute to those facts, and our students benefit greatly. We continue to care for the Concordia Preserve, and are benefitting from a recent grant that will foster learning and research for continued preservation. The Service Learning program launched a campaign to build three fresh water wells in Africa in 2013, tripling



Concordia presented the Zdroj with family three scholarships on *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*.

"I thank each and every one of you for your gifts to Concordia in the past year. Your participation, your presence, and your financial support are essential to continue our mission of developing Christian leaders."

their past fundraising goals by encouraging friends, faculty and staff, students and alumni to give. Friends of the university continue to fund scholarships, classroom projects and move us closer to the reality of expanding athletic fields on this campus so that all our athletes can experience home-field advantage.

In the coming pages, you will learn more about these gifts. I thank each and every one of you for your gifts to Concordia in the past year. Your participation, your presence, and your financial support are essential to continue our mission of developing Christian leaders.

Faithfully Yours,

Dr. Thomas E. Cedel
President

DURING THIS GREAT SEASON OF GIVING, WE GIVE THANKS

During this great season of giving, it's important to remember and acknowledge the many blessings which have been bestowed on us, to step away from the hustle and bustle and think about our mission and the true meaning of Christmas.

As we strive to continue developing Christian leaders, we acknowledge

It's our hope that you find joy in our success and inspiration in our stories.

that this University cannot sustain itself on tuition dollars alone. Additional funds are needed to build athletic fields and support the teams in travel when they excel to playoffs. Technology, while amazing, doesn't sustain itself and eventually needs to be up upgraded or replaced. Buildings protect and serve us in our daily functions but need care and maintenance, and as we grow, more facilities are needed to support day to day functions.

We are excited to have secured additional land adjacent to our campus, commonly referred to as Lot #1, with the help of the [Lutheran Church Extension Fund \(LCEF\)](#) and are working toward raising funds to develop a new master plan to determine feasibility for expanding facilities in that area for soccer and track and field.

Thanks to generous and anonymous donors, \$2.3 million dollars has been raised to build a softball field and



A rendering illustrates a plan for the future softball field (adjacent to the existing baseball stadium) and support facilities for the two venues.

These stories would likely not be possible without so many who believe in our mission and the outcomes we're producing on a daily basis.

athletic complex that could include shared offices for baseball and softball, shared concessions, parking and a club house, but more is needed. We're about a third of the way toward funding that dream.

The last master plan was completed prior to the university's move to northwest Austin in 2008. Since then, enrollment has more than doubled. Classroom space is mostly full, and the need to expand facilities grows as well. Student housing is at capacity, and being able to house all traditional students in the future is a priority, enabling us to provide a more vibrant campus life experience.

We have been blessed with increased enrollments in many of our programs where other universities' numbers are in decline. Administration is looking at expanding program opportunities where it makes sense. [New online programs](#) are being launched in the spring of 2013. A large gift from [University Federal Credit Union \(UFCU\)](#) will support the growing nursing program and will provide valuable resources to faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Efforts to involve traditional parents have increased with the launch of the [Parent Association](#) this past summer.

In fact, one couple was so inspired to get involved that they signed up for the Parent Association and Athletic Booster Club on the same day. After hearing President Cedel talk about the needs in athletics, they made a significant gift to support various athletic efforts.

The [Parent Association](#) is open to all CTX parents and provides opportunities for them to be more engaged with the CTX family. Benefits include exclusive access to events, including VIP weekends.

The development team hosted a [Leadership Luncheon](#) in October and raised more than \$110,000 from supporters through donations and pledges. These gifts will support annual fund efforts for daily operations. Another one is planned in San Antonio for the spring of 2013.

Alumnus [Scott Linebrink](#) and his family partnered with the athletics department to host [Dining with the Stars](#), an evening of dinner and fellowship with several major league baseball players. Proceeds from that event will support various athletic needs including team travel.

[Regions Bank](#) continues to support the [College of Business Conversations with... Speaker Series](#) on a monthly basis, and the generous support of a donation from [Dr. and Mrs. Emerson Besch](#) helped launch a new [Biological Speaker Series for the College of Science](#) this fall.

We are excited about the newly formed [Foundation Board](#), who will connect CTX further to the community and support our philanthropic initiatives through direct support and community outreach.

Concordia Foundation trustee [David Stein](#) continues to provide significant support for nursing, athletics, the College of Business and numerous student scholarships. It's donors like Mr. Stein that allow us to fulfill our mission.

We strive to be a better community partner in Austin and the areas served by our remote centers in DFW, Houston and San Antonio, providing access and entertainment through athletic, fine arts, academic and spiritual events where available.

We thank all of you for your involvement, influence, promotion and financial support of this university. These stories would likely not be possible without so many who believe in our mission and the outcomes we're producing on a daily basis.

You can read more about these stories throughout the magazine and at giving.concordia.edu/givingstories. It's our hope that you find joy in our success and inspiration in our stories. We invite you to join us in 2013 as we pursue our mission. May peace be with you this holiday season and a renewed sense of faith for the coming year.



SETTING A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Concordia University Texas Foundation launched in the fall of 2012

Concordia launched the Concordia University Texas Foundation this past fall. With 11 founding board members, the foundation will advocate for the University, cultivate relationships and raise funds.

“We are excited to launch the foundation and grateful to our founding board members for their commitment to the University,” Dr. Tom Cedel, president, Concordia University Texas, said. “All of these board members have a special connection

to Concordia, and we are confident that they will have an impact in bringing greater awareness to the University’s educational and philanthropic priorities.”

Each foundation board member is charged with having an understanding of the strategic vision and philanthropic priorities of Concordia, serving as an advocate for the University in everyday endeavors, and supporting and attending Concordia special events and programs, among others.

CTX Foundation Board members

Joyce Batcheller, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN,
RWJ Executive Nurse Fellow Alumna
Senior Vice President/System Chief Nursing Officer
Dean of the Seton Clinical Academy for Education and
Research, Seton Healthcare Family

Merritt Belisle
Reed & Scardino LLP, Advisory Counsel

Tony Budet
University Federal Credit Union, President and CEO

John Garrett
Community Impact Newspaper, Publisher and Founder

Mark McClain
SailPoint, CEO and Founder

Rebecca Powers
Innovation +, Executive Director

Robyn Roberts
Pumpco, Inc., Corporate Treasurer
Concordia University Texas Board of Regents, Member

Tom Stacy
T. Stacy and Associates, President

Rev. Dr. David Stein
Retired

David Stein
Roger Beasley Import Highline Group, Owner and
Managing Partner

Keith Weiser
Westwin Petroleum, LP, President
Weiser Land and Cattle, LLC, Owner
Concordia University Texas Board of Regents, Chairman

"We are excited to launch the foundation and grateful to our founding board members for their commitment to the University. All of these board members have a special connection to Concordia, and we are confident that they will have an impact in bringing greater awareness to the University's educational and philanthropic priorities."





Excellence in Leadership Gala raises more than \$130,000

By Heidi Doering and Melissa Miller

Concordia University started off the school year with an outpouring of community support at the 6th annual "Excellence in Leadership" Gala, which recognized an outstanding Christian leader, Reid Ryan. Ryan is President and CEO of Ryan Sanders Baseball, LP and the founder and CEO of both the Round Rock Express and the Corpus Christi Hooks baseball club. This black-tie event held at the Four Seasons Hotel on August 17 showcased an attendance of nearly 400 and successfully raised more than \$137,000 for the University's scholarship fund.



photo by Stacey Harrell

Concordia University Texas President, Dr. Tom Cedel (right) presents Excellence in Leadership Gala Honoree, Reid Ryan (left) with the Outstanding Christian Leader Award.

"I'm honored to be selected as the Concordia University Excellence in Leadership honoree this year."

"I'm honored to be selected as the Concordia University Excellence in Leadership honoree this year," Ryan said. "My leadership style is based on helping others achieve their goals and striving for greatness as a team. Receiving an award like this serves to motivate others as well as validate the goals we have set forth to accomplish."

Ryan serves on numerous nonprofit boards including The Miracle League that features specially designed baseball facilities for kids with mental and physical disabilities. At the gala, he spoke about growing up around inspirational coaches whose wisdom formed his foundation as a Christian leader.



Nearly 400 people helped raise more than \$137,000 at this year's Gala for the university's scholarship fund.

"I lead with conviction and faith," said Ryan. "A global perspective on Christianity is important to developing business."

We invite you to join us next year for the 7th annual "Excellence in Leadership" Gala. The event will be held Friday, August 23rd in Austin at the Four Seasons Hotel. For more information about the 2013 EIL Gala, please contact Gala Director Melissa Miller at



photo by Stacey Harrell

CTX head baseball coach Tommy Boggs with honoree Reid Ryan.

"I lead with conviction and faith, a global perspective on Christianity is important to developing business."

512.313.4104 or melissa.miller@concordia.edu or visit the website at www.concordia.edu/EIL.

SAVE the DATE

the 7th annual

Excellence in Leadership Gala

Friday, August 23, 2013

Austin, TX | Four Seasons Hotel | Black Tie



Concordia featured on popular ABC show;

President gives scholarships to family who lost homes in wildfires

Concordia students help clear some of the burned debris from the Bastrop wildfires as part of the *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* episode that aired on December 3, 2012 to an estimated audience of four million.

It seems like a long time since Concordia volunteered on the *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* project in Smithville. In fact, it was just a year ago. But on Monday, December 3, that episode finally aired on national television to an estimated audience of more than four million viewers.

The show featured the Zdroj family of Smithville who received a new home courtesy of the ABC reality show after losing theirs in the September 2011 wildfires. During the show, Concordia University Texas president Dr. Tom Cedel presented three full college scholarships to the children of the Zdroj family.



President Cedel gives Whitney Neimann a full college scholarship on ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*.

Whitney Neimann, the eldest of the Zdroj children, has decided to put her full Concordia scholarship to use and will begin classes through Concordia's Accelerated Degree Program (ADP) in January. The University's Accelerated Degree Program offers a flexible schedule with classes meeting one night per week.

In addition to presenting the children with scholarships, more than 120 Concordia volunteers served more than 750 hours working on the around-the-clock home building project during the week of filming in December 2011.

Not including the hours spent volunteering on the *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* project, since September 2011, Concordia volunteers have served more than 1,400 hours cleaning home sites in Bastrop County, distributing clothing at shelter locations and collecting funds to aid families in wildfire recovery efforts.

If you missed the show, you can view it online ABC's website at: abc.go.com/shows/extreme-makeover-home-edition/ video.



More than 120 CTX students, faculty and staff served more than 750 hours during the week of filming in 2011.

Leading up to the show's airing, Concordia partnered with the new Moviehouse and Eatery at The Trails on November 5 to host benefit screenings of "Bastrop: Rising From the Ashes." The feature-length documentary was created by two students: James Headrick and David Reece, and chronicles the aftermath of the wildfires in Bastrop County during September 2011. The event offered a sneak peek of the state-of-the-art theater before it opened to the general public, and all proceeds from tickets sales went to All About Families, a nonprofit in Bastrop County who has been working to aid in relief efforts for those recovering from the fires. To learn more about this documentary, visit www.bastrop-documentary.com.

TRAILS at 620

On 620 across from Concordia
on Concordia University Drive

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an upscale gift and holiday boutique

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Angel Donuts
Flores Mexican Restaurant
Mattress Firm
Moviehouse and Eatery
Schlotzsky's
Whataburger



Twelve CTX students participated in the Model Organization of American States (MOAS), a mock diplomacy competition held at Baylor University in Waco, TX. Pictured here are (front) Espi Camacho, Elena Bailes, Kelly Nichols, Stephanie Perez, Andreaa Patterson, Shelby Smith, and Hannah Thoms. (Back) Dr. Matt Bloom, Ian Clemens, Johnathan Brown, Hanna Shinnerer, John Izzard, Joseph Day, Dr. Brent Burgess. Not pictured: Dr. Debra Allen and Richard Potts, advisers.

Students excel at mock diplomacy competition in Waco

Twelve Concordia students were invited to participate in the 2012 Model Organization of American States (MOAS), a mock diplomacy competition among university students held at Baylor University in Waco this fall. Students from participating schools were assigned a country by the MOAS board, presented solutions and debated them using parliamentary procedure, with the goal of passing bills during the process.

"This event opened doors I didn't even know existed, and helped me realize possible career aspirations in international relations."

Concordia students this year were assigned as delegates for Bolivia. Ian Clemens and Espi Comacho served as committee chairs. The competition is a real lesson in diplomatic affairs, and many of the students involved are business or political science majors with an interest in international affairs. Professors Dr. Brent Burgess (political science), Dr. Debra Allen (history), Dr. Matt Bloom

(history) and Dr. Rich Potts (political science) served as faculty advisors for the team.

The Concordia team walked away with many awards and the honor of hosting the 2013 parliamentary workshop offered to prepare all participating schools and approximately 2,000 students for the pending competition. Jonathan Brown, a senior business administration major won an award for the best budget statement on the finance committee. Ian Clemens, a sophomore political science major, and Espi Camacho, a multi-disciplinary major concentrating on history and religion, won awards for their positions as rapporteur and committee chair for their adept use of parliamentary procedures.

"It's an honor to serve as a host school for the parliamentary workshop next September," said Brent Burgess, professor and program director for political science at Concordia. *"Ian will lead this event, along with MOAS director Josh Hiles, to teach students about the parliamentary procedure before the mock event in November."*

MOAS provides students with an opportunity to experience the procedures of diplomatic relations and earn the chance to serve in leadership roles.

"I was able to build connections and learn how to be diplomatic in helping other people," said Ian Clemens. *"This event opened doors I didn't even know existed, and helped me realize possible career aspirations in international relations."*

Next year's MOAS competition will take place at Baylor University in Waco, Texas during November.



CTX students Jonathon brown, Ian Clemens and Espi Camacho all won awards at the MOAS competition.

CTX ROCKS THE VOTE

By Jill Cloud

CTX event enables and inspires students to vote and encourage others to do the same

Students held a 'Rock the Vote' event in September, incorporating live guitar music from the civil rights movement and signing up students to vote in the November election.

"I registered my own parents to vote during this process, we all went to vote together for the first time ever."

During Rock the Vote, 198 students were registered to vote. It was the first time that students at Concordia

did anything like this. Not only were students able to register on campus, they voted there as well.

To prepare for the event, music professor, Dr. Kim Perlak, took 22 students to the Travis County Tax Office during Constitution Week to become volunteer Deputy Registrars.

"[Cheryl Reese at the Travis County Tax Office] was explaining how we register people to vote and how to approach others about voting," said American Pop Music



student Rosalie Cutrer. "Then we deputized each other."

Dr. Perlak's mission was to encourage students to vote.

"Students were inspired through the music and history to do something,"



Dr. Kim Perlak took 22 students to the Travis County Tax Office during Constitution Week to become volunteer Deputy Registrars. (Trey Buchanan and Dr. Kim Perlak pictured with students during the campus Rock the Vote event.)



2012 marked the first year CTX opened its doors as a mobile early voting location.



Music student incorporate live guitar music from the civil rights movement for the Rock the Vote event.



During Rock the Vote event, 198 students registered to vote.

said Perlak. “Before this, students said they didn’t feel like part of the political process, but music is a powerful motivator for them.”

Dr. Perlak’s American Pop Music class changed students’ perspectives on voting.

“I never would have voted if I hadn’t taken this class. I was caught up in my own life and wouldn’t have thought about it. But this music [about Civil Rights] made me realize that so many people couldn’t vote,” said Alix Chavez. “And I now feel this obligation

“I never would have voted if I hadn’t taken this class.”

to vote because they couldn’t.”

Concordia University Texas, for the first time, opened its doors as a mobile early voting location for voters registered in Travis County on October 23.

If Concordia had not served as a polling location, many students said they would not have voted.

“I don’t have my car here, so I wouldn’t have voted,” said American Pop Music student Holly Bolden.

This new perspective on the election process continues to inspire students to share this experience and encourage others to vote.

“I registered my own parents to vote during this process,” said Chavez. “We all went to vote together for the first time ever.”

WATCH THE VIDEO



Scan this code with a smart phone

www.concordia.edu/rockvote



The Student Nurses Association coordinated a blood drive on Friday, November 9. Faculty, staff, and students donated a total of 67 units of blood, exceeding expectations for the day. Another blood drive is scheduled on campus on Tuesday, April 2.



Students in Don Christian's Introduction to Business class were visited by Olympic gold medalist **Garrett Weber-Gale** (2008 gold medal in the 4x100 meter free-style) in November. They talked about careers and passions, and the importance of doing something you love. Pictured are: **Cade Radley, Brandon Garwood, Garrett Webber-Gale, Trevor Harlos** and **Nick Mead**.



During the December segment of the College of Business' Conversation with... Speaker Series, sponsored by Regions Bank, baseball legends **Huston Street** (far left) and **Scott Linebrink** (third from right) shared their insight on what makes them a success and how they stay grounded. They are seen here with Concordia baseball players **Cade Radley, Ryan Ullman, Brent Schaeckel** and **Robert Jones**.



Luke Hoag, a sophomore student in the director of Christian education (DCE) program is an avid archer, who participated in the U.S. Olympic Trials for archery in October, 2011. A member of the Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD) program and Texas State Archery, Luke has been practicing for approximately two years. In his first showing at the JOAD National Championship in 2011, his team won

Communication students get social in San Francisco

By Jill Cloud

Seven students in the COM 3398 course traveled to San Francisco during Fall Break to explore the world of social media. The class visited four companies: User Voice, Get It Now (by Postmates), Union Metrics, and Google.

The first company visited was User Voice, a customer support start up focused on empowering customers to speak and companies to understand. User Voice helps companies connect to and understand their consumers by collecting and managing feedback.



CTX Communication students enjoy the sites as they get social in San Francisco.

photo by Erik Green

"I learned how important it is that students develop their own personal brand before beginning their professional careers."

Jill Cloud - Communication '13

At Google, the class met with release engineer, Dinah McNutt, who shared Google's secret to success. The 70-20-10 rule. Which means, 70% of a Googler's time should be spent working on core projects. 20% of their time should be spent on core-related topics. 10% of their time should be devoted to projects unrelated to their core work.

After Google, students visited Get It Now, by Postmates, which is a delivery service. Anything a customer wants from anywhere in the city (currently only available in San Francisco) can be delivered to

a silver medal. Luke's goal is to earn a position on the 2016 U.S. Olympic Team.

Recently, Luke has been working with wounded veterans and giving free instruction in archery skills with other members of TSAA (Texas State Archery Association) and Paralympic Archer, Lindsey Carmichael (bronze medal in Beijing, China, in 2008). He works with veterans to demonstrate that archery is a sport for all ages and ability levels. Luke is in the process of preparing for the upcoming 2013 national tournament circuit, while coaching on the weekends with Austin JOAD Archers.

Heath Padgett, a communication and business student with a passion for philanthropy and community involvement is working as a volunteer with the Social Good Summit, a national initiative dedicated to harnessing the power of innovative thinking and technology to solve challenges. The organization is supporting a 'Work from Home' day in Austin on February 8 and working with some of the largest and most influential companies in the city, including Google, Whole Foods and 3M, to make that happen. The initiative is aimed at reducing air pollution. The goal: to get 10,000 cars off of Austin-area roads for one day by empowering local companies to support employees to work from home. Air quality test results of the pilot day will be presented during the Social Good Summit in Austin during South by Southwest (SXSW) on March 10, 2013 at City Hall and shared with the community at-large on the Social Good Summit website. For more information, visit www.socialgoodsummitaustin.org.

your door in less than an hour. Communications Director Ashley Brown shared important advice to the class about developing a personal brand. She recommended steps to help them advance in any field of interest: identify thought leaders in your field, start reading articles/publications about your industry, start a blog and begin talking about your industry, seize every opportunity and don't be afraid to have an opinion.

The last company visited was Union Metrics, a startup company who offers social media analytics. Their flagship service, TweetReach, is now used by thousands of people all over the world every day to analyze the impact of their conversations on Twitter. Union Metric's customers use TweetReach to track millions of tweets each week about everything from elections and uprisings to product launches and recalls to conferences, celebrities, TV programs and commercials.

For information about these companies, visit their websites: www.uservice.com, unionmetrics.com, postmates.com/getitnow

To read more about the excursion, visit the blog at ctxsanfran2012.tumblr.com



BLOGGING IS MY PASSION

Concordia has helped provide tools to follow that passion

By Christina Boudreaux

Writing was my very first passion in life. As a kid, I was often asked to read my poems to the class, or to my whole school or for family member's birthday parties. Once my dad even offered to un-ground me if I wrote him a poem about how great of a father he was. (I, of course, accepted this offer.) It's no wonder that, more than four years ago now, I fell in

"My university has helped me find the knowledge, resources and understanding that it takes to manage a more successful domain."

love with blogging.

I had always been encouraged to share my writing, and this was now a perfect platform to share with a bigger audience. Blogging quickly became an outlet to talk about my aspirations, goals, adventures and accomplishments. More than just that, the world of blogging has helped inspire me to dream bigger and to live so much more passionately. What started as just a fun hobby has quickly turned into so much more. Whether it be parasailing, traveling, bungee jumping, being published in a local newspaper, modeling, volunteering, running a

half-marathon, or starting an on-campus radio show, "Christinadoesitall.com" has pushed and reminded me to always do more, be more and learn more. My blog keeps me reporting not only to the world, but most importantly to myself, and that alone keeps me accountable to whom and where I want to be. But "Christinadoesitall.com" has also shown others what I'm about, and, in turn, has presented so many amazing opportunities.

This year, I was asked to be an ambassador for the fitness community, "Fit Approach." I've been asked to write reviews for products which I then receive for free. I've met so many inspiring, motivating people through the blogging community, and I continue to grow daily from what the blogosphere has taught me so far. My world, resume and life are bigger, better and so much more fulfilling due to blogging.

Though I was accepted into Concordia years after I started my very first blog, I can definitely say that my university has helped me find the knowledge, resources and understanding that it takes to manage a more successful domain.

Christina is a senior communication student at Concordia and plans to graduate in May 2013. She already has a job lined up at Dell as a corporate blogger.

MAKE AN IMPACT

Be part of positive
change in Ethiopia.

This year CTX Service-Learning and Water to Thrive are asking CTX alumni, faculty & staff and current students to sponsor 3 clean water wells in Ethiopia.

High Adventure Outdoor Program launched for CTX community



CTX students participate in the new Outdoor Recreation Program on a hike through Pedernales State Park.

As an institution of higher learning, Concordia provides opportunities for its community to expand their learning, discover their calling, and impact their community, but those opportunities

don't all take place in the classroom. In fact, the experiential learning component of the curriculum is what draws many to Concordia. Here, classrooms are not bound by walls.

The Outdoor Recreation program was launched in early 2012 to provide the CTX community with high adventure outdoor experiences. Partnering with Ascend Outdoor Adventures, a Christian-based outdoor outfitter, students and staff can explore area parks, rivers and trails with skilled guides at an affordable cost.

Excursions in 2012 included tours of Hamilton Pool and Reimer's Ranch Park, backpacking in Lost Maples State Park, canoeing the Colorado River and a week-long leadership course in Big Bend National Park. While such excursions can be costly, Ascend Outdoor Adventures supplies equipment and Concordia subsidizes the cost to participants. This allows the university to provide



PARENTS *as* PARTNERS

You are vital partners in helping your child achieve success at Concordia University Texas. Your participation in the Parent Association is a show of support for Concordia's mission of developing Christian leaders. We invite you to become an active and important member of the Concordia community.



Watch Whitney Flynt

CTX Alumnus, class of 2010 talk about her experience with Water to Thrive.

Donate online at: www.watertothrive.org/browse-campaigns

Concordia University Texas

www.concordia.edu/3wellcampaign

unique learning experiences that challenge participants to get outside their comfort zone.

“Participants gain confidence and learn the importance of communication, trust and leadership,” said John Adams, assistant director of student services. “They learn that we’re all leaders in our own way.”

The university plans to expand offerings in 2013 and hopes to develop the program to offer course credit by 2014 in addition to developing an outdoor recreation center on site where the CTX community can check out equipment and receive training for outdoor adventures.

For more information on the program and activities planned for 2013, visit www.concordia.edu/outdoorRecreation



CTX Outdoor Recreation by the numbers

Miles driven: 2803 mi	Camp meals eaten: 482
Miles hiked: 279 mi	Backpacks used: 60
Elevation traversed: 16,162 ft	Canoes used: 12
Climbing rope used: 700+ ft	Miles paddled: 58 mi
Cameras dropped from cliffs: 2	
Hours unplugged from the world: 4,824	

MEMBER BENEFITS

- 50% off Parent shirts at the Bookstore
 - \$5 anytime meals at the dining hall
 - Complimentary invitations to our “Conversations with . . . Speaker Series”
 - Complimentary invitations to our music events on campus
 - Woosh! Tornos Athletic Weekend and VIP reception
 - Netwooshing! (networking) with other Tornado parents
 - Opportunities to support student activities and scholarships
 - Parent calendar of campus events on concordia.edu/parents
 - Free tall cup of brewed coffee at our campus Starbucks
- Show your Parent Association member card to receive these benefits.

COMMON EXPERIENCE CURRICULUM TO LAUNCH IN FALL 2013

By Trey Buchanan

Pilot program provides feedback for development

The start of 2012-2013 academic year featured a pilot launch of Concordia's new general education curriculum, the Common Experience. The pilot launch began at Embark! and focused on working with 40 new freshman to evaluate course content and academic advising related to the Common Experience. This new curriculum differs from existing Core Curriculum by reducing required credit hours from 57 to 42 (roughly equal to a semester's worth of classes) and embedding general education learning outcomes in courses taken across the college years. These outcomes include foundational academic skills, exposure to a range of liberal arts disciplines, exploration of personal identity, and engages students in experiential learning opportunities both on and off-campus.

More than 20 Common Experience courses are being piloted this academic year ahead of its full launch in Fall 2013. So far, the results are encouraging and student feedback has been very positive. Stay tuned for further developments in the transformation of undergraduate general education at CTX.

CTX LAUNCHES HONORS PROGRAM

By Matt Bloom

Beginning in Fall 2012, CTX students have an additional opportunity to think about Christian leadership and communities through the new Honors Program, which was developed by a faculty committee over the past three years.

In the Honors Program, students begin with the course *Critical Thinking about Great Texts* where they explore insights from great thinkers—including Aristotle, Confucius, Luther, and Voltaire—and contemplate how these insights can be applied to daily life. Students also take discussion-based seminars such as *Twain's America*, *Great Speeches* and *Speechmaking*, *Literature of Diversity*, and *Food and Drink in World History*. Within these seminars, students not only continue to study and discuss great ideas and texts but also critically analyze the mundane issues of communities around them.

Students in any major are eligible to apply to join the program. Beyond the coursework, the Honors Program includes co-curricular activities such as leadership seminars, guest speakers, social activities, and community service opportunities. More information about the Honors Program may be found at www.concordia.edu/honorsprogram.

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Current initiatives include:

- \$500,000 - to develop the Art major
- \$66,000 - for upgraded technology
- \$350,000 - to develop the worship arts ministry program



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CONCERT WITH MASTER PIANIST



photo by Maggie Thompson

The Concordia Singers performed a concert on November 18 with original compositions from Heather Sorenson (playing piano).

Composer Heather Sorenson joined the Concordia Singers in a concert event on Sunday, November 18 and later conducted a master class for the music department on Monday, November 19. Sorenson is well known for her work as a composer and arranger of church music but has been recognized for her

compositions of choral anthems, piano collections, children's series and orchestrations. Learn more about Heather at www.heathersorenson.com and find additional music events at Concordia by visiting www.concordia.edu/music.

CONCORDIA LAUNCHES THREE NEW ONLINE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS FOR SPRING 2013

Concordia University Texas will offer three new degree and certification programs in a fully online format through its Online Center beginning in January 2013 and in March 2013. Students will be able to earn a Master of Education in Advanced Literacy Instruction and a Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management beginning in January 2013. The University will also offer a Superintendent Certification program beginning in March 2013.

"The new delivery method will offer students the same Concordia experience they would find in the classroom with the convenience of an online setting," Tammy Stewart, vice provost of remote operations for Concordia University Texas, said. "We're taking what Concordia does best and replicating it in a virtual environment."

The online format allows busy, working adults the opportunity to continue their education without interrupting their daily routine. The online courses emulate the on-campus environment by providing students with opportunities to collaborate and interact with their professors and peers.

The Bachelor of Arts in Human Resource Management will consist of 128 course credit hours and be offered in an accelerated format. This program offers an introduction to the myriad of issues facing today's HR manager focusing on areas of responsibility and contemporary issues and concerns.

The Master of Education in Advanced Literacy Instruction program is designed for aspiring literacy instructors at the primary and secondary education levels and will consist of 30 course credit hours and a 16-week case study in a practicum setting.

The Superintendent Certification program is designed for students who already hold a master's degree. This flexible program prepares busy, working adults for the TExES Superintendent Certification exam.

Concordia also launched a Master of Education in Differentiated Instruction program in August. The program consists of 30 course credit hours and is designed to teach educators how to adjust instruction in specific cases for students who need modifications in the classroom. The majority of the program concentrates

"The new delivery method will offer students the same Concordia experience they would find in the classroom with the convenience of an online setting,"

on special education; however, some practices learned could be applied to students who are unmotivated due to life challenges .

General education courses are also being offered in an online format, allowing students the flexibility to add online coursework to their general studies. A 'Bring CTX Home' campaign launched last spring promoted these options to current students who were able to go home for the summer and earn credits through online coursework. The university hopes to expand these options for the future.

For more information, please visit www.concordia.edu or www.online.concordia.edu.



The University Choir performed a Service of Lessons and Carols featuring guest artist Joseph Martin and directed by Assistant Professor Joshua Chai.

The University Choir performed two concerts this holiday season: Christmas with the Choirs at Hope Presbyterian Church in Austin featuring The University Choir and The Concordia Singers along with a Festival Orchestra performing

J.S. Bach's *Magnificat in D, BWV 243*, and A Service of Lessons and Carols in the campus Chapel Auditorium featuring The University Choir and guest artist Joseph Martin. Assistant Professor Joshua Chai directed both productions.

Practical experience enhances learning for special education majors

Education majors, both traditional undergraduate students and adults in the master of education and superintendent certification programs, comprise a large percentage of Concordia's enrollment. And one thing that Concordia seems to do very well is give these future educators many opportunities to learn from practical experience.

"God is on our campus. It's evident in all that happens here."

-Joel Schildwachter

For special education students, opportunities abound. Concordia partners with Leander Independent School District (LISD) to host the SELF 30 program aimed at providing special needs students ages 18-22 from LISD with a chance to attend school in a college

setting and hone skills they need to be successful in life.

"SELF 30 students are a part of CTX," said Sharon Whightsil, a Concordia student and education major. "SELF kids learn what it's like to be in college but also learn independence."

Education majors are required to do five hours of field work with the SELF30 program, but many volunteer for much more. In fact, that experience is what prompted Whightsil to pursue a career in special education.

"These kids are not sheltered from reality," said Whightsil, on having the SELF 30 program on Concordia's campus. "They attend classes, chapel, and interact with students daily. Aline (the SELF 30 director) was the catalyst for me joining the special education program."

Special education majors also benefit from travel courses. In May, a group of

five students traveled to California and Nevada with Professor Cari Chittick to observe special education programs in Lutheran schools. It was an especially interesting experience for students pursuing a Lutheran Teaching Diploma to become a rostered teacher in the Lutheran school system.

"It's our goal to be able to start something like that here," said Joel Schildwachter, a student studying special education.

Chittick says these opportunities happen from networking and getting involved in the community. And they have been blessed with many opportunities to use classroom education in practical situations.

"You never know how God is going to call and use you," said Kendall Ainsley, a student in Chittick's class.

To learn more about these programs, visit www.concordia.edu/education.

Discover

your calling.

College of Science launched Biological Sciences Speaker Series

The College of Science launched the **Biological Sciences Distinguished Speaker Series** this fall, holding events on the third Tuesday of each month during the academic school year.

“The Biological Sciences Distinguished Speaker Series has already given our students the opportunity to interact with a number of very fine research scientists,” said Dean of the College of Science, Dr. Janet Whitson. “We are grateful to Dr. & Mrs. Emerson Besch who sponsor this series, and are excited about its potential impact on the future careers of CTX students.”

The first installment on Tuesday, September 18 featured Schonna Manning, Ph.D., a research scientist from the Culture Collection of Algae at the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Manning shared her research about the

use of algae as a promising source of pharmaceuticals, biomass, and biofuel. She discussed various genetic and molecular biology techniques that her research utilizes to uncover the diversity of algae and its possible applications as a more environmentally-sensitive source for the world’s increasing energy demands.

On October 16, Jelena H. Pantel, Ph.D., discussed her recent research on the effects of environmental variability on the biological diversity of freshwater ponds. Biological diversity, or biodiversity, is often defined as the variety of all forms of life, from genes to species, through the broad scale of ecosystems. Environmental conditions and variability often dictate the species distribution in a given ecosystem, thus playing an important role in the development of biodiversity.

On November 20, Robert McLean, Ph.D., discussed bacterial biofilms and their importance on earth and in space. Most bacteria in their natural environments live on surfaces as slime-encased, biofilm communities and are quite resistant to environmental stresses such as harmful chemicals and antibiotics. While biofilms are the dominant form of growth of bacteria in nature, little is known about the biological factors that allow growth in biofilm.

“The series provides insight into how science is actually done,” said Whitson, “and reinforces the fact that science is ever-changing and always seeking new understanding.”

Join us for future installments. For more information on the Biological Science Distinguished Speaker Series, visit www.concordia.edu/biospeak.

Nursing program experiences milestone moments for accreditation and examination

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) has completed its accreditation site visit review of the **Concordia University Texas Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program**. The accreditation site visitors’ preliminary evaluation is that the Concordia BSN Program met all four standards and the site visitors made no recommendations for change. The site visitors’ report will be submitted for official review to the CCNE Accreditation Review Board (ARC). It is extremely rare for the ARC to overturn the recommendation of the

site visitors, and the official report is anticipated for later in the spring.

The nursing program graduated its first class in April.

Enrollment into Concordia’s nursing program continues to grow as students seek to meet the demand for healthcare professionals in central Texas. Upon completion of the BSN program, graduates are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN licensing exam to become registered nurses. Nursing program director Joy

Penticuff is pleased to report a 100% passing rate for eligible graduates. All 20 of the recent graduates from the first nursing class have been offered employment as a result. Concordia’s program offers a very hands-on approach with students working in partnership at The Clinical Education Center at Brackenridge (a Seton hospital in Austin) during their junior and senior years, and opportunities to serve on medical missions throughout the world.



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concordia.edu/texas



photo by Jesse Gumtow

The pond on the Concordia Preserve is not very far away from the residential halls (seen in the background) yet it is a hub for ecological growth.

New science program director works to protect Preserve and develop school pride with recently awarded grant

By Monica Goetz

The centerpiece of Concordia's main campus is most notably the Concordia preserve. But what is it? And what does it mean to the CTX community? Asking students the first question may garner a response like, "I know you can get expelled and arrested if you go in without permission." While there is some truth to that statement, newly appointed environmental science department director, Dr. Sam Whitehead, is hoping to increase awareness and create positive perceptions about the preserve, with the help of a recently awarded grant. Whitehead joined Concordia in August, and shortly after, his department received a State Farm Youth Leadership Grant.



photo by Monica Goetz

Newly appointed environmental science department director, Dr. Sam Whitehead is hoping to increase awareness and create positive perceptions about the preserve.

"The main goal of the grant is to develop young environmental stewards, teach students environmental ethics, and equip them to raise awareness about the preserve," Whitehead said. "You can't appreciate something if you know very little about it. So it's just a matter of a little bit of awareness."

Whitehead said that it was like seeing a light bulb go on the first time he took his students into the preserve. He knows that his students have a basic understanding of conservation and environmental science but seeing the preserve was a new experience.

"You've got to see it to understand its significance and its beauty," Whitehead said. He loved hearing his students say, "I had no idea that this was down here." For the most part Whitehead says his students perceive the preserve as being untouchable. "I want them to perceive it as being their own. They own it. They are the caretakers and we as faculty just kind of facilitate."

Whitehead explained that the point of the preserve is to protect habitat, so raising awareness comes with challenges. For example no one may enter the preserve during the bird nesting season which



The beauty of the Concordia Preserve seen as the sun starts to go down.

"You've got to see it to understand its significance and its beauty."

begins in March. Whitehead plans two ways to raise awareness about the preserve without increasing human impact. The first will be accomplished by building an online virtual tour. His students will begin working on the content for the virtual tour in March when access to the preserve is closed. The second will be accomplished by expanding the hiking trail around the perimeter of the preserve. In addition to expanding the hiking trail, Whitehead also plans to have his students create and place interpretive exhibits along the trail to help educate people about plant and

Q&A

with Dr. Sam Whitehead



photo by Jesse Guntow

Rattan vines grow in the Concordia Preserve because of the rare microclimate. Many other plants can grow in this sheltered environment and are a big reason why the preserve is protected.



photo by Jesse Guntow

Expanding trails outside of the Concordia Preserve will help raise awareness while keeping the foot traffic on paths like these in the preserve to a minimum.

wildlife species living in the preserve. Students and visitors will be able to learn what's going on in the preserve without requiring an authorized agent of the University to take you down there.

The virtual tour would showcase the interior of the preserve, and give students an opportunity to showcase their work in documenting it. Whitehead explained that the students' work comes with the caveat that most of it will not be done in the preserve.

"Most of our efforts to protect the preserve will be done on the properties surrounding the preserve," Whitehead said. "Because whatever is being done on the campus can be a corollary of what can be done in the preserve."

His approach is an effort to minimize human impact on the preserve.

The primary focus will be to initially fulfill the requirements of the grant, but Whitehead wants to see the project expand and become part of the culture at Concordia. He hopes in the future it will not just be environmental science students educating their peers about stewardship but all students educating others.

"You know it's kind of chain reaction regardless of major – at the very least they understand that the preserve is a very special place and they need to treat it that way. And eventually it will become pervasive in the culture of Concordia. Not just in the College of Science but people instead of saying 'yeah there's a preserve but I don't know much about it,' they can describe to outsiders why it's special."



View more photos from the preserve at www.facebook.com/concordiatx.

Q: Why does the preserve need to be protected?

A: It provides habitat for two endangered species – two birds. The Black Capped Vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*) and the Golden-cheeked Warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*). And it provides habitat for the Jollyville Plateau Salamander, which may be listed on the endangered species list.

The preserve is also a microclimate – being in a canyon the preserve is sheltered and it creates different temperature and precipitation patterns. And because it has perennial year round springs it can support a higher diversity and abundance of plant species. For example, we've got some unique plant species down there – things that you do not typically find in the Hill Country. We have some rare walnut trees and rattan vines.

Everything is bigger down there. The trees are huge, it's "old growth forest." We hear about it in the news – the importance of protecting old growth forests. Well, we have it down here. They are exceptional because they are so old and big. They provide some ecological benefit but really it's for human benefit – they are just great to look at.

Water quality is also important because it ties into drinking water supplies. It's part of the Bull Creek watershed and the Edwards Aquifer.

Q: Are we the only university with a nature preserve?

A: To my knowledge we are the only campus that has a nature preserve with endangered species on it that is on the same continuous piece of land.

Concordia expands study abroad opportunities

By Christina Boudreaux

Senior business major Adam Case took advantage of study opportunities in Italy during the summer of 2012.

For the past decade, Concordia has had few options when it comes to study abroad programs. That is, until now. Richard Potts, the study abroad director, is trying (and succeeding) to change this program for the better.

In spring of 2013, nine students will be making their way to Costa Rica for a study abroad program. It's a rather large accomplishment considering that the study abroad goal for the entire Concordia University System was just 10 students. Potts is passionate about expanding opportunities for the future.

"[My goal is] to have as many students experience culture shock as possible," said Potts. "I want students to spend time with other cultures, eat their food, share their language, and in the process, open their minds and hearts."

Traveling abroad can also create

greater sense of tolerance and understanding in our own culture.

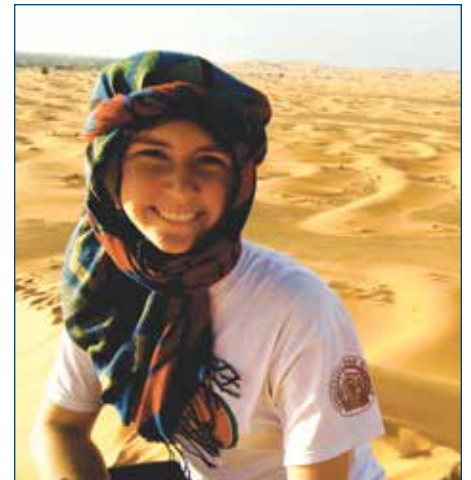
"Students become more sensitive to immigrants in their own community," said Potts.

People who were once just an abstraction—perhaps an image in one's head but never something tangible—suddenly become a real human-being, which in turn can lead to new lifelong friendships.

Potts explains that growing more culturally aware tends to also make students more curious, which leads to better students. Better students then leads to better questions, thus leading to better scholars. This, in turn, leads to better career opportunities down the road.

The question here seems to not be, "Why study abroad?" but "Why not study abroad?" With affordable

options (Latin America, Africa and Asia are much cheaper than Europe and Australia, for instance.) and Concordia's study abroad program widening every semester, there's really not many reasons not to. In the future, Potts hopes that studying abroad will just become part of the culture of being a student.



Emma Clifford, a junior and member of the volleyball team, studied in Morocco during the spring of 2012.

In 2012-2013, Concordia students have traveled to:

- San Jose, Costa Rica
- Paris, France
- Prague, Czech Republic
- Florence, Italy
- Barcelona, Spain
- Panama City, Panama
- Freiburg, Germany
- Meknes, Morocco
- Hyderabad, India

Concordia University Texas Study Abroad Program

Study Abroad opportunities can range from short courses to semester-long adventures.

Many programs are offered in partnership with trusted vendors to offer academically rigorous, culturally grounded academic experiences.

For more information, visit www.concordia.edu/StudyAbroad



FACULTY & STAFF

The faculty & staff of Concordia University Texas continue to make an impact and be recognized as leaders in their respective fields.



Dr. Curt Giese was honored during the annual Day of Exegetical Reflection at the Concordia Seminary in St. Louis on Sept. 17 by Concordia Publishing House (CPH) who honored three commentary authors by presenting them with special leather-bound copies of their most recent contributions to the series. Giese (right), who wrote commentaries on 2 Peter and Jude, is pictured with Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis), and Dr. Christopher Mitchell, (Concordia Seminary, St. Louis). Dr. Giese has assumed the role of New Testament Editor for the series, a role previously filled by Dr. Gibbs.

In November, Giese presented a synopsis of these commentaries at a conference of LCMS pastors in the greater Austin area with an emphasis on pastoral care.



Dr. Kelly Carolyn Gordon joined the Concordia faculty in September as the Director of Theater. Previously, Gordon served as Coordinator of Theater at Brevard College in North Carolina. Gordon directed the student production of *Doubt: A Parable* in November and will produce *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* in the spring of 2013.

Concordia welcomed **Dr. Sam Whitehead** as the new director of the environmental science program in August. Whitehead plans to expand course offerings for the future and strives

to provide opportunities for students to gain practical experience that will help them compete in the job market by equipping them with real world problem solving opportunities. Read more on page 22 about how students will gain experience through a recent State Farm Youth Leadership Grant awarded to the Environmental Science program.



Dr. Carl Trovall was named Interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts for the 2012-2013 academic school year. Trovall has served at Concordia in various part-time and full-time roles including campus pastor and professor since 1997. In addition to his current role as dean, Trovall is also teaching an honors class in philosophy and a history class on the culture of the Mexican-American. (Link to story on web: www.concordia.edu/trovall)



Former Dean **Ken Schmidt** is working to develop the art major.



Dr. Janet Whitson was named Dean of the College of Science in July. Previously, she served as associate professor in the Natural Sciences department

and chair of the graduate council at Concordia University Nebraska. She brings a broad background in education to Concordia. She taught elementary school science, spent time in administration and teaching at the high school level, and served as an assistant professor in the Neurosurgery Department of the University of Texas medical school in Houston. Dr. Whitson is a member of the National Science Teachers Association, the Society for Neuroscience, and the International Society to Advance Alzheimer Research and Treatment (ISTAART). (Link to story on web: www.concordia.edu/whitson)



Dr. Donald Christian will assume the chairmanship of Austin ECHO – Ending Community Homelessness Coalition – on January 1, 2013. He recently finished a three year term as Chairman of the LINC-Houston Board and a two year term as President of the IACBE (International Association of Collegiate Business Schools) Region 6 Board.

Dr. Debra Allen (history) and **Dr. Matthew Bloom** (history) co-presented a talk about the War of 1812 at the Hubbard Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Dr. Allen spoke about diplomacy during the war and Bloom spoke about fighting around Lake Erie.



Dr. Clyburn (Clyde) Duder, Professor

A bridge between histories

International travel course will take students through the history of Western Civilization and early Church History



The ruins of the Celsus Library were built in ancient Ephesus, now modern day Turkey.



History professor **Dr. Matthew Bloom** traveled with former colleagues from Heidelberg University (Tiffin, Ohio) to Turkey and Greece from May 19 to May 30 in preparation for a CTX travel course to those countries in May 2014.

Locations on the trip included Istanbul, Troy, Gallipoli, Ephesus, Santorini, and the Parthenon and Acropolis in Athens. The histories of Turkey and Greece not only include the “cradle of Western



The Lone Pine Cemetery is one of many ANZAC Cemeteries on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

Civilization” but they also include early Church history—including Paul’s journeys— and later Islamic culture under the Ottomans. The travel course in 2014 will be open to all students and include a component for students in the Honors Program.



Viewed here from the Acropolis, the Aeropagus, or “Mars Hill” to the Romans, is the location of the Apostle Paul’s famous “unknown god” sermon.

of English, will have two sermons and two children’s messages published in “Concordia Pulpit Resources” a journal of Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, MO.

The publications are designed for homiletical consideration during the Lenten Season of 2013. The first item, entitled “God is Faithful,” is for Lent III (March 3, 2013), and the second item, entitled “God Was Reconciling,” is for Lent IV (March 10, 2013). The intention is the same for the children’s messages as well.

Dr. Duder has been at Concordia Texas since 1987 and has served in various administrative offices as well as taught in English and Theology. In addition, he has served as vacancy pastor for a number of congregations in Austin and the surrounding area.



President Emeritus **David Zersen** received an award for *The Poetry and Music of Jan Kilian*, (Concordia University Press -major publications), a compilation

of previously little-known poems and hymn tunes by Jan Kilian, Wendish pastor and leader of the Lutheran community in Texas from 1954-1884. Each year, Concordia Historical Institute, the Department of Archives and History of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, recognizes individuals, congregations, agencies or boards for historical publications for unique contributions to Lutheran literature, or for personal service in the field of Lutheran archival and historical work.



John Adams, Assistant Director for Student Services has accepted the position of Director of Alumni Relations.



James Candido, Center Dean for the Austin Campus has accepted

the position of Development Officer for Concordia University Texas.

John Adams and **James Candido** were nominated to participate in the Concordia University System Leadership Institute, a select group of emerging leaders from across the system who have been chosen to be further developed and mentored in an effort to secure effective, progressive leaders for the future of the CUS system who understand the importance of our Lutheran ethos and Christian higher education. Participants will complete self-selected projects designed to enhance his/her personal knowledge of campus operations and/or leadership skills. Started in 2008, John and James will be part of the fifth cohort.



Sports Information Director **Matt Chmura** was honored by Special Olympics Texas (SOTX) – Central Texas Area in October for his commitment to volunteering and leading the Athletes for Athletes partnership between SOTX and CTX. Matt assumed the role of competition director for flag football,

led the flag football coach training and served as scorekeeper for the summer softball league for the past two seasons.



Rev. Dr. Jerry Kieschnick (right), Presidential Ambassador for Mission Advancement was recently honored by LINC Houston for his role in helping launch the organization in 2002. Kieschnick served as President of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod for three terms prior to coming to Concordia in his current position. Also recognized at the event was **Don Christian** (left), Dean of the College of Business at Concordia, for his service in the board at LINC Houston for the past three years where he served as board chair. LINC Houston is celebrating 10 years of ministry, planting nurturing and equipping groups of new believers in culturally diverse communities.

Philip Hohle, Professor of Communication, was contracted by the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) to research how their programming has been impacting the Muslim and Christian communities in Palestine. Over a week-long span in August, Hohle collaborated with the Palestine Lutheran College Dar al Kalima to collect more than 1,000 face-to-face surveys in East Jerusalem, Ramallah and Bethlehem. CBN is reviewing the data and, as a result of the study, they could possibly change their broadcasting strategies as well as revise how they frame their messages for this region.

Dr. Erik Green, professor of Communication, successfully defended his dissertation "Conflict Mediation Discourse Examined Through a Girardian Lens: Weapons and Wounds in Conflict Talk" on April 30th, 2012. Green earned his doctoral degree in Interpersonal Communication Studies from the University of Texas - Austin. Green designed a Conflict Resolution course that launched this fall to use his research to educate and train his students on how to manage and resolve conflict.

Providing needed resources for the academic community



The Scarecrow Press, Inc. released a Historical Dictionary of U.S. Diplomacy from the Revolution to Secession in October, a reference

book compiled by **Dr. Debra Allen**, professor of history at Concordia. Dr. Allen started working on this book in 2008 at the request of others in the field who felt this kind of resource was necessary in academia. While students in Allen's class will not be required to purchase the book, she does anticipate that she will use it frequently as a point of reference in her classes and hopes to see it used throughout the Concordia University System. The book can be



purchased via Rowman & Littlefield's website at www.rowman.com or on Amazon. Previous work from Allen includes The Oder-Neisse Line: The United States, Poland, and Germany in the Cold War, a product of her dissertation, released in 2003 by Praeger

Allen's next project will be doing research on American foreign policy during a sabbatical in the fall of 2013.



In August, Concordia University Press released its first print-on-demand publication through the website Lulu.com. This publication is a reprint of the Socratic Digest, a 1940s and 1950s

publication that contained the text of those talks that were given at the Oxford Socratic Club, an undergraduate club that was headed by C. S. Lewis. The Socratic Digest contains seven essays by Lewis and many essays by other luminaries of that day, including Gabriel Marcel, G.E.M. Anscombe, and Charles Williams.



Edited by Concordia University Press Executive Editor, **Dr. Joel Heck**, this reprint supplies firsthand information about the events of 13 years in Lewis' life from 1942 to 1954, when he accepted a position at Cambridge University and was no longer able to serve the Socratic Club as its president. The book is available only through Lulu.com, where the book can be ordered for \$25.00.

More news can be found at
concordia.edu

“SPIKING” INTEREST IN SOCIAL MEDIA

Communication professor uses social media as a teaching tool and to “spike” the interest of baseball fans.

By Jill Cloud



Times are changing from when cell phone use was banned in the classroom to a time when cell phones are used as learning tools for students. It’s not uncommon for teachers to use hashtags in Twitter to create a conversation with students about class. Social media



Communication Professor Jeff Birdsell uses social media in class to help students with their own professional careers.

keeps classmates and professors connected without having to share too much personal information. Communication adjunct professor, Jeff Birdsell, uses social media to engage his students not only in the classroom, but also how to use it for their professional careers.

I use [social media] as a teaching tool in class,” said Birdsell. “In some of my larger classes, I have [students] use a unique hashtag to tweet questions and thoughts for discussion.”

Today’s generation grew up with social media and other online

“It is important for students to be their own best client, I think having some agency in your online footprint is important.”

innovations. For some, it is a preferred method of communication. As social media continues to grow in today’s society, Birdsell believes that how students manage their social media accounts is important for their professional careers.

“It is important for students to be their own best client,” Birdsell said. “I think having some agency in your online footprint is important.”



As "Spike," Professor Birdsell interacts with fans at Round Rock Express baseball games and online via Spike's Twitter account.

to connect with his fans and soon, Spike had a presence on Twitter.

"I want to keep the Express in people's minds," Birdsell said.

"I want Spike to be a factor in the entertainment."

Spike is a fun-loving quirky mascot who interacts with the crowd, high-fiving fans and dancing in the aisles.

"I get to be the unfiltered positive me [as Spike]," Birdsell said. "I am blessed with a mask, but Spike also has a lot of my own personality."

In addition to teaching and performing at the Express games as Spike, Birdsell is also in the process of completing his last semester of doctoral coursework in Organizational Communication from the University of Texas. He also teaches courses and tutors student athletes at the University of Texas.

"I have great family support from my wife and children," Birdsell said.

"With my busy schedule I have to allocate my resources appropriately."

Follow Professor Birdsell on Twitter
[@profbirdsell](#) or [@Spike_RRE](#)

Social media can be used as a personal and promotional tool, but no matter how private a page is, the information posted is public and permanent. It is important for students to be responsible about what information they decide to share.

"Students should use social media as a tool for their personal and professional development," said Birdsell. "[Personal and professional development] is always going to be focused around how people are using [social media] to engage in impression management."

Birdsell doesn't limit his use of

social media to the classroom.

Upon arriving to Texas, he knew the Round Rock Express (Triple A baseball) was in town, and at the time, needed a summer job. He grew up in a family that loved baseball. He first applied at the Round Rock Express as a Party Patrol Officer and after a brief audition, was offered the position of Spike, the team's mascot.

Birdsell wanted to give Spike a voice

"I get to be the unfiltered positive me [as Spike], I am blessed with a mask, but Spike also has a lot of my own personality."

Communication Professor Jeff Birdsell makes an impact on fans at Round Rock Express games as well as with CTX Communication students.

CTX ALUM NOTES



As a CTX Alumnus, you are part of a bigger community. Here are some of the things that have happened since the last CTX Magazine.

Phyllis Kelm Trautner '70, is the organist at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Cedar Park, Texas. She also is teaching music at Pathways Early Childhood Center, their childcare program. Time also allows for her to teach 20 piano students and substitute teach when it fits into her schedule.



Phil Weaver '85 and Amy Wright Weaver '93, welcomed a new grandson on January 19, 2012. Maxwell Joseph Vance joins his sister, Trinity Grace as the absolute apples of our eyes and heart of our hearts.



ALL IN THE CTX FAMILY

Tom Schwolert ('86 in Business and Pre-Seminary studies) is working as the Youth & Family Minister at Faith Lutheran Church ELCA in Flower Mound, TX. He and wife Melanie have three children. The oldest, Jazzy, is a freshman at Concordia and loving it. Max is a senior and on his high school golf team and daughter Zoey is a freshman and plays volleyball. Tom says it's been great to get acquainted with CTX again.



Stacy Fritsche Novak '97, and husband John welcomed their child, Natalie Patricia Novak on March 8, 2012. Natalie has two siblings: brother Mitchell and sister Annie. Stacy is a teacher at Mitchell Intermediate School in Conroe ISD.



Justin Johnson '02, and his wife are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Austin Joseph Johnson. Born Monday, November 5 at 10:05 am, he weighed in at 9 pounds, 13, ounces and 20 3/4 inches long.



Mark Schulze '03 and Kresha (Payne) Schulze '03, welcomed their third child, Phineas Graeme Schulze, on April 5, 2012.



John and Gretchen Krause McCullough '04, welcomed daughter Emma Elaine on October 7. Gretchen is a DCE in Homer, AK. This is their first child.

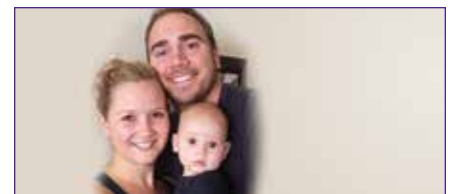
SHARING IS GOOD.

Let Concordia University Texas know about your news and accomplishments and we will share it with our growing list of CTX Magazine recipients.

Send your stories and pictures to
alumni@concordia.edu.



Vance Sayers ('06) married his wife Reisha on April 14, 2012 in their home country of Barbados and welcomed son Zachary Vance on July 23. He was born 8 pounds, 7 ounces at Seton Hospital in Austin.



Mallory Shackelford '07 and '11, and husband David welcomed daughter Ava Grace Shackelford on April 3, 2012.



Jon-Michael Vasek '08, Keri (von Holdt) Vasek '09 and big brother Noah welcomed Evelyn Elizabeth on August 24, 2012.



Amanda Domel '08, and M.Ed. candidate '13, is pleased to announce her engagement to Mario Iwabuchi. A December 15 wedding was planned at Zion Lutheran Church in Walburg, Texas.



Lydia Humphries '12, is serving as a missionary on the White Mountain Apache Reservation and is Can-Do Missions' first DCE missionary intern since early August. Lydia is working with a church four nights a week and working with a youth center multiple days during the week. She has also been working with mission groups who want to serve on the reservation through Can-Do missions.



Thank You Amy!

Alumni Director **Amy Huth, M.Ed. candidate for 2013,** married Brent Youngblood on August 4, 2012. Amy and Brent moved to Houston, Texas, where Brent is head basketball coach at Scarborough High School. Amy is now at Houston Baptist University serving as the Director of Alumni Relations and Advancement. We wish Amy and Brent well as they establish their new life.



Nicole Seals, '11 (Multi-Disciplinary-English) and '12 (DCE) is serving as Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator at St. Paul Lutheran Church Incorporated with the Aboriginal Lutheran Fellowship in Ferryden Park, South Australia.



Concordia is proud of its employees who are now CTX alumni. **Laura Folks (HR), Jennifer Rosas (Admissions), Eric Booth (Facilities), and Randa Scott (Admissions- not pictured).**

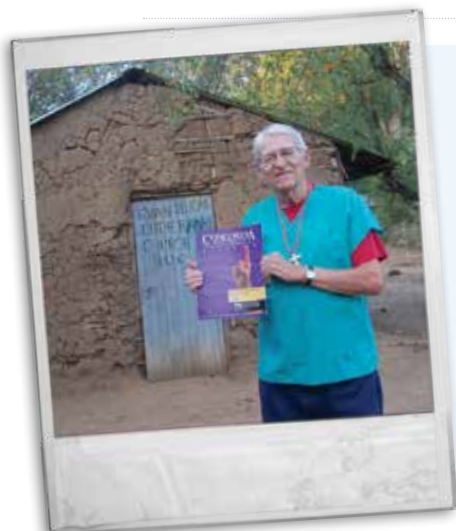
John Adams, former assistant director for student services will be taking over as director of alumni relations. Stay tuned for more on exciting events for alumni in 2013.



IRONMAN CTX ALUMNUS

Gretchen Ann Placke '00 participated in the 30th edition of the prestigious Subaru Ironman Canada in Pentictum, Canada, the oldest Ironman competition in North America and finished in 13:14. This is Gretchen's third Ironman event, consisting of a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike ride and 26.2 mile run.

Participants are given 17 hours to complete the race. Gretchen says it's the most amazing challenge you can give yourself... to really see what your body can do and then push it further. Gretchen teaches Texas History to 7th graders and coaches girls volleyball, basketball and track at Seabrook Intermediate School.



Dr. Rudy Zoch H.S. '53, Jr. Col. '55 has completed his 8th short term Vision Clinic mission trip to Kenya, Africa, all in the last 4 years. Here he is pictured in front of the Lutheran Church in Ngurumani, Kenya in a remote region in the Bush.

SHOW US YOUR CTX MAGAZINE

Take a picture of you with your CTX Magazine and send it to ctxmagazine@concordia.edu. Please include your name, the year you graduated and where you are on God's green earth.





Congratulations *Class of 2012*

Connect with other CTX alumni at:

alumni.concordia.edu

 facebook.com/ctxalumni

 [@ctxalumni](https://twitter.com/ctxalumni)

2013 Commencement Services

Spring Commencement

May 4, 2013

Summer Commencement

August 25, 2013



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



I've been given the opportunity to lead our association and build on the foundation that has been laid by many previous years of service. Founded twenty years ago, the alumni association offers opportunities for you to reconnect with your fellow alumni and to continue your relationship with the university. I'd like to congratulate Concordia and the Development Office on a successful and fun Homecoming and Family Weekend 2012, and I challenge all alumni to bring a friend and attend next year's festivities.

In December, I had the pleasure of gifting our most recent graduates with the CTX lapel pin, designating their status as our newest alumni association members. Congratulations and welcome! Your active engagement helps increase

the prestige of Concordia, which in turn increases the value of your CTX degree. As always, we're thankful for your feedback on how we can make your membership more valuable.

As I reflect on all the projects under way, combined with the success in both academics and athletics, it is clear that President Cedel and his leadership team are positioning our alma mater for a promising future. We can be proud of the direction our university is headed.

The alumni association embraces your continued support, your selfless commitment to volunteerism, and your generous financial giving. The year promises to be an exciting time with outstanding activities and events! Thank you and I wish you all the best in 2013.

Shelly Looney '99
President,
CTX Alumni Association
slooney2@austin.rr.com



Upcoming 2013 Alumni Events:

Thursday, January 24 **Alumni Association Board Meeting**

Saturday, February 2 **Alumni Night Basketball vs. Texas Lutheran**
Women 5:30pm / Men 7:30pm

Thursday, March 21 **Alumni Association Board Meeting**
with invited guests, The Executives (CTX Business Club)

Tuesday, April 9 **Alumni Night Baseball vs. Trinity 7:00pm**

Saturday, May 4 **Spring Commencement**

Thursday, May 23 **Alumni Association Board Meeting**

(Be on the lookout for chapter events in Austin, Houston, and Chicago.)



CONCORDIA STUDENT-ATHLETES: successful leaders on & off the field

Concordia athletics has seen its share of success throughout the school's 86-year history including three teams earning the American Southwest Conference championship title during the 2011-2012 year, ranking second for most championship titles in a year among the 15 member institutions.

Concordia athletes aren't just gifted on the field. Student athletes continue to be recognized for their academic commitment as well, with a record-setting 71 students being named the ASC Academic Honor Roll in the

"We are so proud of our outstanding and dedicated student-athletes, we work to promote all-around excellence"

previous year and four students named as Distinguished Scholar Athletes. The cumulative GPA for Concordia student athletes was 3.12 last year, another record.

"We are so proud of our outstanding and dedicated student-athletes," said Stan Bonewitz, Director of Athletics. "We work to promote all-around excellence, and that can't happen in one arena alone."

→ **Concordia University encourages the student-athletes to succeed not only on the field, but in the classroom as well.**

"Coach Sigler instilled in us that academic success leads to athletic success," said women's golf player, Kayla Burch.

And it shows. Burch was named 2012 ASC Distinguished Scholar Athlete of the Year. An accounting major, Burch also serves as a peer

CTX Women's Golf

3 **invitationals played**

4th **place finishes at the Schreiner Fall Classic and the Alamo City Classic.**



Junior, **Kayla Burch** became the first player in program history to win an invitational at the Schreiner Fall Classic.

CTX Men's Golf

7 **is the number of strokes by which the team set a record for lowest score over three rounds.**



Sophomore, **Jack Cersosimo** placed second at the John Bohmann Memorial Invitational.



academic coach for students and as treasurer for the Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC).

"[SAAC] is a group of leaders from different athletic teams that come together and try to get students more involved with the community," said Burch. "We work with professors and administrators to build the

relationship between athletics and the different [academic and institutional] departments."

In the community, SAAC also partners with Special Olympics Texas (SOTX) by volunteering at their events and involving SOTX athletes at Concordia events.



CTX women's golf player Kayla Burch, a 2012 ASC Distinguished Scholar Athlete of the year.



Cedric Perry is one of nine Tornado Athletes to qualify for the Texas Relays in 2012, a first in Concordia's history.

Concordia University coaches do their best to make sure their athletes succeed in every aspect of their college career.

"CTX coaches help me succeed because they set the bar high" said men's track and field athlete, Cedric Perry. "They want us to focus on academics before anything else."

In 2012 Perry qualified for the Texas Relays, where he competed in 400-meter hurdles and placed

"CTX coaches help me succeed because they set the bar high. They want us to focus on academics before anything else."

ninth. Perry is one of nine Tornado athletes who qualified for the prestigious relay event, a first in Concordia's history. He is majoring in communication and hosts his own radio show on Tornado Radio called *Results May Vary*.

CTX Women's Cross Country



Freshmen, **Maegen Leider** was named to the All-ASC First Team and also ASC Freshmen of the Year.

5000 & 6000
meter circuit school records broken multiple times.

3rd Place at the ASC Championships.

CTX Men's Cross Country

5th Place at the ASC Championships, which is the second highest in school history.



Michael Normand was one of four freshmen to turn in a fastest time in school history at the postseason championship.



The professors also do their best to work with the CTX athletes. They understand that games, tournaments and meets can take student-athletes out of the classroom for days at a time. The professors respect their ambitions.

“All the professors are so willing to help me succeed,” said softball player, Taylor Schiefelbein. “This wouldn’t happen at a bigger institution, because there is no middle man to get through to get answers.”



Sebastian Parra is the first CTX men’s soccer player to earn postseason recognition four years in a row.

Schiefelbein, a communication major, was named National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) National Player of the Week, last season. Taylor was also named to the ASC West Division First Team two times, as well as NFCA All-American Scholar-Athlete two times. She is involved in the CTX Communication

“I prefer to lead by example and the best example to give is [by] hard work and organization.”



Taylor Schiefelbein was named ASC West Division First Team twice, as well as, NFCA All-American Scholar-Athlete two times.

Club and serves as a peer academic coach for the university.

Concordia professors encourage the student-athletes to stay in athletics, and continue to develop and enhance their careers.

“I have had top of the line professors here teaching me their ways, like Dean Christian,” said men’s soccer player and multi-disciplinary major, Sebastian Parra. “They see athletes juggling their roles as

students and athletes like people in the business world and work to support us in that balance.”

Sebastian Parra became the first men’s soccer player in school history to earn ASC postseason recognition all four years by making the All-ASC Third Team. Parra is a Multi-disciplinary major in Business and Kinesiology.

CTX Women’s Soccer

9-6-3
overall record

4 All-Conference selections
2 years in a row



Sophomore forward, **Jordan James**, made the All-ASC First Team and put together the second best offensive season in program history.

CTX Men’s Soccer

Freshmen defender, **Call Cesarez** was named Co-Defensive Freshman of the Year as the CTX defense allowed one goal or less in eight games.



4-12-1
overall record





Domonique Liddell has been a top finalist in Persuasion Contagion and also serves as secretary for the SAAC.

The schedules that the student-athletes juggle can be tasking. Each athlete develops his or her own regimen and must do what works best for them.

"I try to schedule my classes early so I have a space between class and practice, said women's basketball player, Domonique Liddell. "I have a teammate that has the same class schedule as me, so we break down the chapters and teach each other."

Liddell, a communication major, has been a top finalist in the university's

persuasive speaking competition, Persuasion Contagion, and serves as the secretary for the SAAC.

These athletes chose Concordia for a well-rounded education.

"I have a teammate that has the same class schedule as me, so we break down the chapters and teach each other."

"I knew that coming to a small school would give more opportunities to get involved and to be a part of [something]" said Burch. "I loved the feel, the nature and the size, especially the smaller classes."

Many of these student-athletes are driven individuals. They strive

to be the best they can, by being leaders on and off the field.

"I just want to be innovative and a leader in every facet that I'm called to lead in," said Schiefelbein. "But I prefer to lead by example and the best example to give is [by] hard work and organization."

It has certainly been a great year for Concordia, and looking forward to the spring season. There is much anticipation for continued success.

To follow news on all athletic programs, visit athletics.concordia.edu.

CTX Volleyball

\$2000

Money raised for the Sideout Foundation to promote awareness for breast cancer research.



Senior setter, **Bianca Martinez** set a school record for most career assists during the NCAA Div. III and ASC era.

10-18
overall record



Celebrity Baseball Event Benefits Tornado Athletics



From left to right: Tommy Boggs, Lance Berkman, Matt Belisle, Huston Street, Chad Qualls and Scott Linebrink shared their experiences during a round-table discussion at the second annual Dining with the Stars event, raising over \$40,000 for the CTX baseball team and Tornado athletics.

Concordia athletics held the second annual Dining with the Stars and Golf Tournament events benefiting the Tornado baseball team and general athletics fund in October and netting more than \$40,000.

Scott Linebrink, a Concordia alumnus and retired major league pitcher helped



Concordia Alumnus and retired Major League pitcher, Scott Linebrink shares how his experiences on and off the field have shaped him.

plan the dinner event on Sunday, October 28 at the United Heritage Center at the Dell Diamond in Round Rock. Lance Berkman, of the 2011 World Series championship, St. Louis Cardinals, headlined the event. Attendees got to mingle with current and retired players: including Berkman, Huston Street, Matt Belisle, Chad Qualls, Scott Linebrink and Tommy Boggs and listen to them share their experiences during a round-table discussion. The evening finished with a silent and live auction.

Approximately 225 golfers spent the following day at Star Ranch Golf Club in Hutto where teams competed for the best scores and were challenged in supplemental competitions.



Lance Berkman, of the 2011 World Series championship team, the St. Louis Cardinals, headlined the Dining with the Stars event.

Funds raised during this two-day event exceeded proceeds from 2011 by nearly \$20,000 and will be used for a variety of purposes including team travel, supplies and equipment. A 2013 event is in the works. Visit athletics.concordia.edu in the new year for more details.

First Annual
Friends of Concordia Texas
Golf Tournament
 April 1, 2013
 Benefiting
 Concordia Texas Athletics & The Jay Sevier Scholarship Fund

Please join us as we swing to make a difference for our incredible student-athletes.

Register online: alumni.concordia.edu/golf

THREE INDUCTED INTO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME ON OCTOBER 20, 2012



The CTX Athletics Hall of Fame includes 10 individuals and two championship teams. Pictured here are various inductees with their families, former teammates and coaches.

Two former athletes and one former coach were inducted into the Concordia Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday, October 20 at the Oasis. The new inductees are Melba Homer-Mitchell (class of 1989, volleyball player); Michael Childs (class of 1985, basketball player); and Mike Gardener, who served as the head baseball coach from 2000 to 2009 and coached the championship baseball team that went to the College World Series in 2002—a first in school history. Gardner today serves as a professor of

kinesiology at Concordia and part-time as an athletic fundraiser for the University.

The Hall of Fame serves to recognize individuals and teams who have made significant contributions to the athletics program at CTX. The first class was inducted in 2009, and today includes 10 individuals and two championship teams. You can see the complete list at athletics.concordia.edu.



2012 CTX Athletics Hall of Fame Inductees



Melba Homer-Mitchell
class of 1989, volleyball



Michael Childs
class of 1985, basketball



Mike Gardner
head baseball coach 2000-2009

CTX ATHLETICS GIVES BACK



Three stories of CTX Athletes giving to the greater good of the community

CTX Volleyball team contributes \$2,000 to the Side-Out Foundation for breast cancer research

With the help of its fans, the 12 American Southwest Conference (ASC) volleyball teams combined to raise a record \$4,386.00 for The Side-Out Foundation to help raise awareness and money for breast cancer research during the annual ASC Dig Pink Crossover Challenge weekends. Concordia raised \$2,000, which was a league-

best among the four host sites. "American Southwest Conference volleyball teams and fans have always been very supportive of The Side-Out Foundation's Dig Pink campaign," said Amy Carlton, ASC commissioner. "The record-setting level of giving during the two ASC Dig Pink Crossover Challenge events this year allows

our volleyball community to help continue important research and programs to fight breast cancer." The ASC Dig Pink Crossover Challenges were held Sept. 21-22 in Austin, Texas (Concordia University Texas) and Alpine, Texas (Sul Ross State University); and October 5-6 in Belton Texas (University of Mary Hardin-Baylor) and Richardson, Texas (University of Texas at Dallas).



CTX athletes were powered by pink during 2012 as they raised money for cancer research and prevention. Here, the volleyball team shows their pride during the Dig Pink Challenge in September.

During each tournament weekend, the volleyball players wore a pink accessory incorporated into their uniforms. In addition, all coaches, athletic trainers, officials and table staff members wore a pink ribbon. Fans made cash donations and bid on Dig Pink prize packs, including tickets to the 2012 ASC Volleyball Championship Tournament.

"I think it turned out to be a very good event due to the fact that almost every person can relate to the hardships and trials that this horrible disease brings," said Concordia Texas senior setter and captain Bianca Martinez, whose team helped raise \$2,000.00 of the conference's total.

"Our Dig Pink crossovers create a very warm atmosphere for giving and support because everyone's heart is open. This event brings teams together on and off court; it provides an opportunity to be united for a wonderful cause."

The Side-Out Foundation

is a non-profit, charitable organization formed in 2004 that has provided over \$5 million toward breast cancer research.

The Side-Out Foundation and Dig Pink information may be accessed online at www.side-out.org.

CTX hosts Strikeout Cancer Day

The volleyball team isn't the only athletics group working to help their community on a larger scale. The Concordia University Texas softball team has raised \$1,650 to date for the American Cancer Society.

The CTX softball team has raised \$1,650 to date for the American Cancer Society

The Tornados hosted Strikeout Cancer Day last April, which involved recognizing breast cancer survivors, honoring those who have lost their lives and welcoming a member of the American Cancer Society to the games. Student-athletes from the softball and men's



The CTX softball team poses for a picture during Strikeout Cancer Day hosted by CTX in April of this year.

and women's basketball teams assisted with collecting the \$900 in donations for the American Cancer Society Whigs Program whenever a strikeout was recorded by any pitcher of either team during the odd innings. Additional efforts this fall raised another \$750.

Since starting the Strikeout

Cancer initiative over ten years ago, National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) member teams have raised tens of thousands of dollars to support the fight against cancer. In addition to fundraised dollars, the initiative has provided a platform to raise awareness for breast cancer as well as support for women's cancer research.

CTX Basketball continues a 9-year tradition of volunteering

The men's basketball team volunteered with the Settlement Home for Children in early November during the 37th Annual

Charity Garage Sale at the Palmer Events Center. Athletes assisted the group by moving items and helping to set up for the event. This

is the team's 9th year volunteering for this event under the leadership of head coach Stan Bonewitz.

2013 CTX ATHLETICS SCHEDULES

BASEBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
2/1	Lubbock Christian	4 p.m.
2/2	Lubbock Christian	1 p.m.
2/7	vs. George Fox!	TBA
2/8	vs. Pacific Lutheran!	TBA
2/9	vs. Whittier!	TBA
2/10	vs. Linfield!	TBA
2/14	Texas Lutheran#	7 p.m.
2/15	Sul Ross State#	10 a.m.
2/16	Ozarks#	10 a.m.
2/16	Howard Payne#	4 p.m.
2/17	Texas-Dallas#	12 p.m.
2/22	Louisiana College	7 p.m.
2/23	Louisiana College (DH)	1 p.m.
3/1	at Texas-Dallas	2 p.m.
3/2	at Texas-Dallas (DH)	12 p.m.
3/8	at Howard Payne*	2 p.m.
3/9	at Howard Payne* (DH)	12 p.m.
3/12	Dallas (DH)	3 p.m.
3/15	at Hardin-Simmons*	7 p.m.
3/16	at Hardin-Simmons* (DH)	1 p.m.
3/22	Sul Ross State*	7 p.m.
3/23	Sul Ross State* (DH)	1 p.m.
3/26	at Trinity	7 p.m.
3/28	Mary Hardin-Baylor*	7 p.m.
3/29	Mary Hardin-Baylor* (DH)	1 p.m.
4/5	at Schreiner*	2 p.m.
4/6	at Schreiner* (DH)	12 p.m.
4/9	Trinity	7 p.m.
4/15	Southwestern	7 p.m.
4/19	at Texas Lutheran*	2 p.m.
4/20	at Texas Lutheran* (DH)	12 p.m.

! West Region Invitational (Texas Rangers Spring Training Facility; Surprise, Ariz.)
 # Rudy's Country Store & BBQ Tornado Classic (Tornado Field; Austin, Texas)
 * Home games

SOFTBALL

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
2/15	Trinity (DH)	4 p.m.
2/17	George Fox (DH)	2 p.m.
2/19	at Southwestern(DH)	4 p.m.
3/1	vs. Louisiana College!	10 a.m.
3/1	vs. Texas-Dallas!	3 p.m.
3/2	vs. Mississippi College!	10 a.m.
3/2	vs. LeTourneau!	3 p.m.
3/8	Mary Hardin-Baylor* (DH)	5 p.m.
3/9	Mary Hardin-Baylor* (DH)	2 p.m.
3/14	vs. TBA#	TBA
3/15	vs. TBA#	TBA
3/16	vs. TBA#	TBA
3/17	vs. TBA#	TBA
3/22	at Howard Payne* (DH)	1 p.m.
3/23	at Howard Payne* (DH)	12 p.m.
3/28	Texas Lutheran* (DH)	2 p.m.
3/29	Texas Lutheran*	2 p.m.
4/5	at Sul Ross State*	5 p.m.
4/6	at Sul Ross State*	11 a.m.
4/12	Hardin-Simmons* (DH)	4 p.m.
4/13	Hardin-Simmons* (DH)	2 p.m.
4/19	at Schreiner* (DH)	5 p.m.
4/20	at Schreiner* (DH)	1 p.m.

! ASC First-Pitch Tournament (Oran Good Park; Farmer's Branch, Texas)
 # Arizona Tournament (Tucson, Ariz.)
 * Home games





For all the latest CTX Athletics news, scores and schedules go to:
athletics.concordia.edu

TRACK & FIELD

DATE	MEET	SITE
2/23	Trinity Open	E.M. Stevens Track & Field Stadium
3/1-2	Incarinate Word Invitational	Benson Stadium
3/15-16	Texas Southern Relays	Alexander Durley Sports Complex
3/29	Trinity Invitational	E.M. Stevens Track & Field Stadium
3/29	Texas Relays	Mike A. Meyers Stadium
4/6	Texas State Invitational	Bobcat Stadium
4/20	Michael Johnson Classic	Hart-Patterson Track Complex
4/26-27	ASC Championships	Wilford Moore Stadium

MEN'S GOLF

DATE	INVITATIONAL	COURSE
2/25-26	Schreiner Spring Shootout	The Club at Comanche Trace
3/4-5	Mississippi College Spring Invitational	Black Bear Golf Club
3/11-12	TLU Intercollegiate Invitational	Vaaler Creek Golf Club
3/25-26	Texas-Dallas Spring Classic	The Golf Club at McKinney
4/8-9	West Region Invitational	Berry Creek Golf Club
4/15-16	ASC Championships	Crown Colony Country Club

WOMEN'S GOLF

DATE	INVITATIONAL	COURSE
2/25-26	Schreiner Spring Shootout	The Club at Comanche Trace
3/18-19	Texas-Dallas Lady Comet Invitational	Canyon Creek Country Club
3/25-26	UC Santa Cruz Invitational	Pacific Grove Golf Links
4/8-9	West Region Invitational	Berry Creek Golf Club
4/15-16	ASC Championships	Crown Colony Country Club





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