

CONNECTIONS

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS

SUMMER 2007

A New Image
Recommended...
Literature in the Classroom
Literature Comes to Life





Southern Exposure Photography

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS
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Dear friends of Concordia,
 Last summer we selected

“A Bold Vision—A Blessed Journey”

as our theme for the 2006-2007 and the 2007-2008 academic years. Last year we focused on the first half, looking at both the bold vision that Concordia University has developed and the bold vision that is crucial for Christian leaders to possess. With the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year, we turn our attention to the second half of this theme, looking at the blessed journey that is ahead of us as a university and as believers in Christ.

We often look at life and faith as journeys that we undertake. The metaphor is applicable to the life of a university. Since opening in 1926, Concordia has certainly been on an exciting journey full of bold visions and blessed growth. As we embark on the physical journey of moving to the new west campus this year, we pray for continued blessings.

So far, it has definitely been a blessed journey! Just last week we received a \$1 million challenge grant from the J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation, which has been earmarked for costs associated with the design, construction and furnishing of an athletic fieldhouse on the new campus. This is just one of many generous gifts we have received over the last several months to aid in the relocation effort. With these gifts, we are well on our way to achieving our fundraising goal.

On the relocation front, we are currently waiting to receive building permits from the City of Austin in order to move ahead on a number of projects. Pending these permits, we plan to begin renovation construction and major site work in September.

Please continue to keep Concordia in your prayers. Pray for the relocation process and those people involved with it. Especially pray for the students who will return to campus this fall, and for the new students who will be joining us. And finally, pray for the faculty who teach these future leaders, and for the staff who serve them.

Yours in Christ,

Thomas E. Cedel, Ph.D.
 President



feature stories

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CONNECTIONS

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Spring 2007 Issue

Connections is published three times a year by the External Relations Office of Concordia University at Austin. It is provided free of charge to alumni and friends. Send comments, letters to the editor, or story ideas to:
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On the Cover:

Laura Young '07 was chosen by her peers to deliver the welcome from the graduating class at commencement. For more stories on commencement and the various awards given, see the Campus Update on pages 2-6.



From the Editor

I have always loved books. Walking into a book store makes me slightly giddy. I get excited thinking about all the stories and characters I haven't discovered yet. For some people, reading is a form of escape, but for me it's more like a wake-up call. I love finding a book that wakes me up to the world around me and makes me see things differently or more clearly. I think that's one of the purposes of literature. It allows us to see the world from other perspectives and to experience life from someone else's point of view, which ultimately teaches us empathy and compassion.

One of the feature stories in this issue is a compilation of book recommendations from Concordia's faculty and staff. I hope you find a book or two that interest you, and that you read them, and that they wake you up and introduce you to new places and perspectives. And I hope that they entertain you, because that's another, very important, purpose of literature.

Finally, I want to remind you that I love hearing from you, especially your stories about your own Concordia experience. Feel free to share more of those stories with me, so that I can share them with the greater Concordia community.

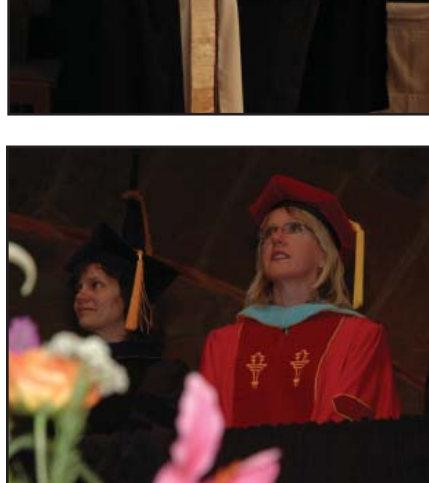
Sherrah Holobaugh '00
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Commencement

Concordia held commencement on Saturday, May 12, 2007, at the Riverbend Centre in Austin. Two hundred fifteen students participated in the day's event, making it one of the largest commencements in Concordia's history.

Mr. Robert E. Schjerven (pictured at left center), CEO Emeritus of Lennox International, was the commencement speaker. His commitment to the development of Christian leaders made him the perfect speaker for this group of graduating Christian leaders.

As the following stories show, a number of other leaders were presented with awards focusing on Christian leadership, service to the church, teaching excellence and service to the University.



Martin J. Neeb, Sr. Teaching Excellence Award

Each year at commencement, the Martin J. Neeb, Sr. Teaching Excellence Award is given to a faculty member who has demonstrated outstanding qualities as a Christian educator in and out of the classroom. Qualities looked for in an exemplary educator include: excellent teaching skills, always being prepared for class, thorough knowledge of the subject and an ability to motivate and challenge students.

This year's award goes to Dr. Claudia Teinert, Associate Professor of English and Chair of the Humanities Division. She has 27 years of experience teaching at the collegiate level, 13 of which have been at Concordia.

In addition to her teaching duties, Dr. Teinert oversees *The Undergraduate English Journal*, which is published each semester and features student papers, reviews of art openings, lectures, books and plays, and news about students and faculty in the Department of English. She was also instrumental in the planning and implementation of Concordia's first Fine Arts Festival, which was held in February of this year.

This summer, Dr. Teinert will present a paper for the 11th Annual International Willa Cather Conference in Paris, France. The title of her paper is "Early Cather Characters and the American National Identity."

The Student Leadership Association and faculty formulated a list of candidates for the award who were then voted on by the graduating class. A committee consisting of a student, staff member, Concordia Guild member and an alumnus made the decision to select Dr. Teinert based on her biography and student testimonials. Students who recommended Teinert for this award made the following comments:

"She inspired me not only to succeed in academics..., but also helped me through the graduate school process."

"She has made a tremendous impact on my life."

"She rocks my socks off."

The Martin J. Neeb, Sr. Teaching Excellence Award is named for a distinguished member of the original Concordia faculty. Dr. Neeb taught at Concordia until 1945.

Christo et Ecclesiae

The Christo et Ecclesiae (for Christ and Church) Award is given to individuals who demonstrate a special interest in advancing Christian education by using the talents with which the Lord has endowed them. Dr. Edwin A. Trapp, Jr. is the 2007 recipient.

A Christian leader throughout his life, Dr. Trapp has worked in the marketing and sales management field with General Electric, Motorola, Inc. and DuCommun, Inc. He served Hall-Mark Electronics Corporation as its president and a member of its board of directors.

As a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Dallas since 1970, he has served as president of the congregation, chairman of the board of elders, as well as many other roles. He is also a semi-professional soloist and amateur actor.

Since retiring, Dr. Trapp devotes his time and talents to other personal interests, such as world travel and the local, state and national levels of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

He served on the Board of Directors of the Texas District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod from 1988 to 1995 and was then elected to the Synod's Board of Directors.

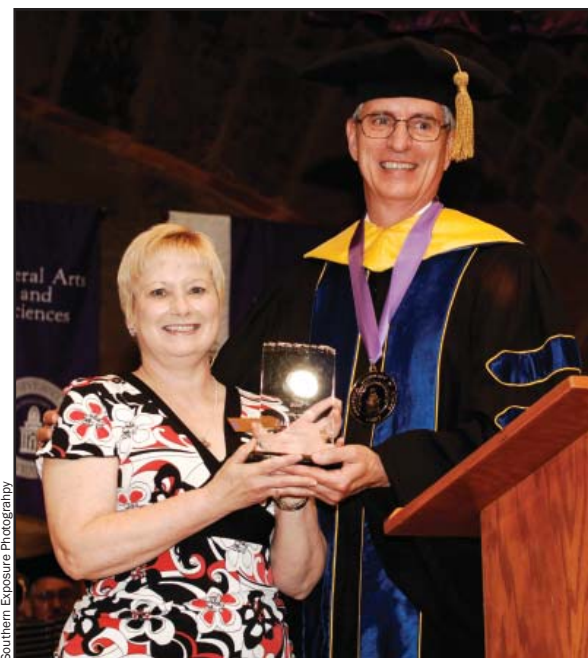
Through this award, we thank Dr. Trapp for his service and commitment to Christ and the Church.



Employee of the Year

The Employee of the Year for 2007 is Pam Siegrist, Assistant Director of Financial Advisory Services in the Student Financial Services office. She has worked for Concordia for the past 19 years in Accounting and Financial Aid. In her current role, she serves 575 students in the Accelerated Degree and Graduate Programs. These programs are especially challenging because the adult students seek to integrate their studies with both work and family. By helping these students navigate through the financial aid process, Pam also helps them to achieve their goal of a college degree.

Pam has a very strong personal value system based on her faith, and she has the rare ability to explain clearly and exactly how financial aid works. Many students mention that she is "kind and extremely professional," and they often go out of their way to comment on how much they appreciate her support. She truly loves her students and is an excellent model of what it means to be a servant leader.



Southern Exposure Photography

Concordia Receives Grant

Concordia University received a challenge grant in the amount of \$1,046,190 from The J.E. and L.E. Mabee Foundation as part of the University's effort to raise funds for its new 389-acre campus in northwest Austin.

"The new campus is an environmentally significant and beautiful site with remarkable potential to inspire learning, teaching and spiritual growth," Dr. Tom Cedel, president, said. "This generous gift—and numerous others—show how enthusiastic people are about the many opportunities this site will open up for the school, the students and the community as a whole.

The Mabee Foundation's grant is earmarked for costs associated with the design, construction and furnishing of an athletic fieldhouse on Concordia's new campus. The total cost to build the fieldhouse is estimated at \$6.9 million. To receive The Mabee Foundation grant, Concordia must raise the balance needed to complete the building.



Jungemann Scholarship

Senior Behavioral Sciences major Kimberly Hill (pictured above with Dr. Ann Schwartz) is the first recipient of the Dr. John Jungemann Scholarship for the Behavioral Sciences. Given to a student who exemplifies academic excellence, outstanding character and service to community, this scholarship honors the life and ministry of Dr. John Jungemann, who served at Concordia from 1981 to 2002. Hill received the scholarship at a luncheon held in April. If you would like to contribute to this endowment, please contact the Concordia Advancement Office at 512-486-1190 or by email at dev@concordia.edu.

Concordia Selected by EPA

George Brozowski of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the father of a former Concordia student, recently contacted Concordia's Science Division to see if a radiation monitor could be installed on campus as part of the EPA's national radiation monitoring network. After assessing possible locations, the decision was made to install the radiation monitor on Harms Hall.

Originally started in 1956, Radiation Alert Network was implemented in response to the atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons and the need to have information about fallout. Later changed to the Environmental Radiation and Ambient Monitoring System, the system has been known as RADNET since 2005. Atmospheric testing is no longer done, but the need for monitoring still exists. Possible radiological incidents from a variety of sources require knowledge of background (normal, nonemergency) levels of environmental radiation so that emergency response personnel can track plumes bearing radioactive material.

The monitor was installed on July 10, 2007, and was coordinated by James Stevenson, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Environmental Science Program Director, with help from University Services staff. Stevenson will direct the routine operation and maintenance of the instrument with help from students majoring in science, particularly environmental science.

*by Dr. James Stevenson,
Associate Professor of
Chemistry*



An EPA technician installs the monitor.

Rev. Dr. George J. Beto Christian Leadership Award



Photo by Linda Lapointe

Rev. John Kieschnick '62 (pictured at right) of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Houston, Texas, is the 2007 recipient of the Rev. Dr. George J. Beto Christian Leadership Award. This award is given annually by Concordia's Board of Regents to individuals who, like Dr. Beto, model servant leadership in both church and community. Pastor Kieschnick has served at Gloria Dei since 1974, where God has used him, his staff and lay leaders to develop a strong ministry in support of its mission of helping people experience a growing relationship with Christ.

Schjerven Scholarship

Michelle Heckmann and Nathaniel Hill (pictured below) are the 2007 recipients of the Schjerven scholarship for students in professional church work programs. Heckmann, a junior Elementary Education major, will receive a full tuition scholarship, while Hill, a senior Behavioral Sciences major in the Pre-Seminary program, will receive a partial tuition scholarship.

Both Heckmann and Hill are active leaders in campus life. Hill served as Concordia Student Ministries Coordinator last year while also serving as a Resident Assistant in one of the dorms and working as a campus security guard. Heckmann is the Concordia Leadership Association Secretary/Treasurer for the upcoming school year, as well as a member of the Concordia volleyball team.



Concordia University Guild

A welcome event will be hosted by the Concordia University Guild on August 10 to introduce new faculty and staff members and to have colleagues reconnect with each other after their varied summer activities. All faculty, staff and Guild members are invited to the Hawaiian themed dinner and fellowship in Texas Hall.

This event is just one of the Guild's service projects planned throughout the year. The calendar announces a reception after the Christmas concert, a study break during finals week (known as the Late Night Food Bash) and an Epiphany Dinner in January. All proceeds from Guild fundraising activities go toward scholarships for deserving students.

The Concordia Guild, a nationwide support and service organization, invites your participation. Through membership in the Concordia Guild, you can support students and staff and enrich Christian higher education at Concordia University Texas.

by Liz Zoch, President of the Concordia University Guild



Current officers of the Guild are (seated) Michelle Teter, Liane Figur, Shirley Carey, (standing) Norman Holmes and Liz Zoch.

New Career Center

After a three year hiatus, Concordia once again has a Career Center. Leslie Brunson, the new Career Services Advisor, arrived on campus in March and immediately started rebuilding the program. With a background in academic advising at The University of Texas at Austin, Brunson brings plenty of experience working with students to help them meet their goals.

Focusing on the most immediate needs, Brunson quickly contacted Concordia's juniors and seniors and began working with them on basic priorities, which include resumé and cover letter writing; career exploration; and how to search for jobs and graduate schools. In addition, Brunson has worked on building a database of job postings and making students aware of these opportunities. Since March, the number of companies interested in working with Concordia students has grown from 20 to 60.

Brunson plans to recruit more employers and raise their awareness of Concordia students. She also hopes to create programs on campus which will allow students to network with potential employers.

LWML Grant

Concordia has been awarded an \$80,000 grant by the Lutheran Women's Missionary League to prepare students for service in child welfare.

At their 32nd biennial convention held in Sioux Falls, SD, from June 21-24, 2007, 617 delegates approved a mission budget of \$1,190,000 to support 18 grants. Concordia University submitted a grant entitled The Isaiah 49 Program, which is based on Isaiah 49: 15-16a, "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands."

This grant will create opportunities for students from across the Concordia University System who are majoring in Behavioral Sciences and have a passion for working in child welfare, to receive educational, spiritual and vocational training and internship experiences that will motivate and prepare them for future service to vulnerable children in public and private agencies, including those affiliated with the LCMS.

In line with our mission statement of developing Christian leaders, this grant will allow us to raise future workers from across the Concordia University System who have an understanding of the operation of and issues facing the child welfare system, as well as a greater concern for those children served by the system. It will also expand students' awareness of service and career opportunities within the child welfare system through internships and service-learning experiences.

by Shirley Carey, Senior Director of Advancement Services

Reading Success Program

Dr. Lorna Idol, Professor of Literacy Education at Concordia University is the author of a specialized reading program which has been taught to Elementary Education majors at Concordia. Reading Success is a proven, teacher-guided literacy program for students of all school ages who experience difficulty with reading. Reading Success instruction is individualized and combines both reading and writing skill development.

Recently, Dr. Idol reported on the progress of 665 children from the years 1979 to 2007 who received this program. Included in the database are students with learning disabilities, mild mental retardation, or behavior challenges, as well as students who were at risk for school failure and students who were transitioning from speaking Spanish to English and experiencing literacy problems. The pupil progress data, as measured by progress over time in various reading curricula, reflect student gains of half a year to more than 4 years curricular progress per year of instruction. Many students showed equivalent gains on standardized informal reading inventories. Some students passed the Texas statewide basic skills test for the first time. And some special education students in Illinois were returned to regular education programs, no longer carrying the stigma of a special education label.

All 665 students received basic lessons, which reflect state-of-the-art research on literacy instruction. Beyond the basic lessons are specialized and individualized interventions, all of which are also research-based and categorized into improving three critical reading behaviors: word reading accuracy, reading speed, and reading comprehension. There are also

interventions for improving basic written language (composition and mechanical skills). Reading Success has been used successfully by special education teachers, remedial reading teachers, classroom teachers, supervised university students, and supervised cross-age peer tutors, who offered 30- to 45-minute, frequent reading tutorials in Illinois, Texas and western Australia.

One of the six projects described in the article is Project 4, which reports the progress of children in Austin who were at risk for school failure and transitioning from English to Spanish. The children received literacy tutoring from 72 Concordia undergraduate students, who were taking an upper-division course in diagnosis and remedial reading instruction and majoring in elementary and middle school education.

Over a five-year time period (2003-2007), the majority of the children (68%) made at least a one-year gain on the curriculum-based assessments and a noticeable percentage of children (13%) improved two grade levels on these assessments. As a measure of generalization, a large majority of the children (80%) also made at least one or more years of grade-level progress on the Qualitative Reading Inventory, a nationally recognized informal reading inventory.

The majority of the students passed the statewide basic skills test in Texas (range: 50% to 74%) in four of the five years; in 2004, only 27% of the students passed the test. Across all five years, 65% of the students who took the test (n=62) passed the test.

Classroom teachers of the children being tutored were also surveyed each year. The greatest student improvements noticed by these

teachers were in word recognition (70%), reading fluency/speed (71%), and reading comprehension (70%). Improvements were reported about 56% of the time in thinking skills; 47% of the time for oral expression; 40% for composition skills and 37% for mechanics of writing. For the latter two scores when transitioning to a second language, written expression is the last literacy skills to emerge.

Dr. Idol and her former students are excited about the literacy gains these children have made, as are the principal and teachers at Wooten Elementary School in Austin, the parents of the children, and, of course, the children themselves! Dr. Idol anticipates these Concordia graduates will be stronger classroom reading teachers as they move to teaching positions in the Lutheran and public schools.

by Dr. Lorna Idol, Professor of Education



Concordia senior Amanda Domel tutors a student from Wooten Elementary School in the Reading Success Program.

Back from Sabbatical



Communication for Church Workers, leading a Pastor's conference, Anthropology in Christian Perspective,

Baseball Clinic, learning Spanish, and playing Basketball; these are the things Dr. Paul Muench will be talking about when asked about the Sabbatical year he spent on the campus of Concordia Seminary in St. Louis.

"My major project was writing a text for the course Communication for Church Workers," Muench reports. "I learned a lot doing this writing. If it had been the only thing I did on Sabbatical, it would have been worth the time. There is much to do before anything can be published, but I am pleased with what I was able to finish."

As the guest speaker at a conference of pastors from northern Louisiana, he was able to field test some of the book.

"Learning Spanish was a family project, stimulated, in part, by a baseball clinic in the Dominican Republic," Muench said. "I participated in the clinic at the invitation of my baseball coach brother and the Central American Lutheran Mission. I would love to tell you more!"

While in St. Louis, Muench also taught an anthropology course in the Ph.D. program at Concordia Seminary. The reading, preparation and interaction with Ph.D. students was both stimulating and fun.

And basketball? This article is too short. You'll have to ask Dr. Muench about playing on the seminary team.

New Faculty Members

This summer, we welcome a number of new faculty members to our community.

Professor Nickles Chittester completed his doctoral studies at the University of Florida in Health and Human Performance with a focus on Sport and Exercise Physiology.

Professor Marchelle Scarnier completed her doctoral studies in Psychology at the University of Arizona. They will both be teaching in the Behavioral Sciences program.

Dr. John Stanford will be teaching Physics and some of the Science for Elementary Education courses. He received his doctorate in Physics and Astronomy from the University of Georgia in 1991. Most recently he has been the chair of the Science Department on one of the campuses of Georgia Perimeter College near Atlanta, Georgia.



On Saturday, June 23, some of Concordia's faculty and staff assisted in building a Habitat for Humanity house sponsored by Austin area Thrivent chapters and local Lutheran congregations. Pictured are Dr. Ann Schwartz, volleyball coach April Bell and Dr. Tom Cedel. Also helping were Dr. Debra Allen and Alumni Director Jackie Faulkner.

Professor Phillip Hohle '77 will be returning to Concordia. An alumnus, Hohle served at Concordia as the Associate Director of Admissions and as a Communications professor prior to working for the LCMS Board for Communication Services in St. Louis and forming his own production company.

Dr. Paul Buchheimer joins our teacher education program. He holds his doctorate from Nova Southeastern University and comes to us from Advent Lutheran Elementary School in Boca Raton, Florida, where he served as Headmaster.

Dr. Michael Wallace is the new Director of Graduate Programs in the College of Education. Dr. Wallace holds his Ed.D. from Baylor University in Educational Administration. Most recently, he was the Superintendent of Schools for Weimar ISD.



Dr. Debra Allen, Professor of History, is spending time this summer resuming research on the Polish Lutheran Church during the Cold War and beginning to look into Poland's post-Cold War foreign policy goals stemming from its membership in NATO. She will also spend about 10 days in Wisla, Poland, teaching ESL as part of a M.O.S.T. (Mission Opportunities Short Term) mission team.

Rev. Dr. Clyde Duder, Professor of English, had the pleasure of serving the vacancy at Faith Lutheran Church in Corsicana, TX, where Pastor Morgan Hamilton '00 was installed on April 29. Our Savior Lutheran Church in Centerville, TX,



invited him to serve as Vacancy Pastor starting June 3. He has also been awarded a grant to spend a week at Calvin College studying a program of co-enrollment for minority high school students at college level institutions like Concordia.



Rev. Dr. Curtis Giese, Associate Professor of Religion, will lead a sectional, "The Proclamation of the Cross in John 18-21," at the Texas District Professional Church Workers' Conference in November 2007.



Dr. Donna Janes, Assistant Professor of Biology, spent a week in Louisville, KY, where she helped grade AP (Advanced Placement) Biology exams. There were thousands of university, community college, and high school teachers present, and it was an excellent way to stimulate new ideas for teaching topics and designing interesting laboratory exercises.



Dr. Jim McConnell, Associate Professor and Director of the DCE Program, recently had his second

article, "Avoid the Burn," published on theSource, an online publication for the LCMS Department of Youth Ministry. He is concluding the writing of another article on leadership in Children's Ministry, also for the LCMS, and will be leading a workshop at the Children's Ministry Conference in Peoria, IL, in July 2008. In addition, Dr. McConnell will be leading a workshop at the Lutheran Educator's Conference in Austin in November on young adult ministry.

Dr. Tom Pate, Professor of Physical Education, and **Dr. Dick McGehee**, Adjunct Instructor, will present a program titled "Viva Futbol-Soccer for All Kids: Fun Skill/Lead-up Games" at the summer 2007 TAHPERD (Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) conference.



Dr. Ann Schwartz, Assistant Professor of Sociology, wrote an article titled "Extravagant Grace," which was published in the June/July issue of *The Lutheran Witness*. The article is about her experiences working at a camp with children who are in foster care.



Dr. Woodard Springstube, Associate Professor of Business/Economics, recently reported to the Travis County Citizens' Advisory Committee on Elected Officials' Salaries to the Travis County Commissioners' Court. The committee was established by the commission-

ers to provide input and recommendations about the appropriate salary level for various elected county officials in Travis County.



Dr. Brian L. Trittin performed a two week concert tour of China with the Elision Saxophone Quartet during May, 2007.

The quartet performed in the cities of Hangzhou, Guiyang, the Jin Yin Instrument music factory and the Melody saxophone factory in Zhouwoxiang. The concert program was comprised of a variety of music styles including classical, Latin, jazz, pop and traditional Chinese folk songs arranged for saxophone quartet. In April, he performed at a benefit for the Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas with the Austin Symphonic Band Saxophone Trio. Dr. Trittin also performed with the saxophone trio at the Heatherwilde Assisted Living facility in Pflugerville, Texas, in May. He performs monthly saxophone concerts at this facility and is pictured above at a Christmas sing-a-long where he was accompanied by Heatherwilde resident Lydia Wolff on several Christmas hymns.

Rev. Carl Trovall is serving as vacancy pastor at University Lutheran Church in Austin. He also presented at the Servant Leadership Conference held at Concordia in April.

A New Image

Fall Volleyball Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
9/14	Hardin-Simons	Home	7 pm
9/18	Schreiner	Kerrville	7 pm
9/21	Sul Ross	Home	6 pm
9/25	Texas Lutheran	Home	7 pm
9/28	LeTourneau	Clinton, MS	2 pm
9/29	East Texas Baptist	Clinton, MS	10 am
9/29	Mississippi College	Clinton, MS	12:30 pm
10/2	Howard Payne	Home	7 pm
10/5	Hardin-Simmons	Abilene	7 pm
10/6	McMurry	Abilene	11 am
10/9	Schreiner	Home	7 pm
10/12	McMurry	Home	4:30 pm
10/12	UT-Tyler	Home	9:30 am
10/13	UT-Dallas	Home	9:30 am
10/13	Mary Hardin-Baylor	Home	5 pm
10/16	Howard Payne	Brownwood	7 pm
10/23	Texas Lutheran	Seguin	7 pm
10/26	Sul Ross State	Alpine	6 pm
11/2-3	ASC Championships	TBA	TBA

Fall Soccer Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
9/14	UT-Dallas	Richardson	5 pm Women/7 pm Men
9/16	Univ. of the Ozarks	Clarksville, AR	2 pm Women/4 pm Men
9/20	Mississippi College	Home	6 pm Women/8 pm Men
9/22	Louisiana College	Home	2 pm Women/4 pm Men
9/28	Hardin-Simmons	Home	2 pm Women/4 pm Men
9/29	McMurry	Home	2 pm Women/4 pm Men
10/4	Howard Payne	Home	6 pm Women/8 pm Men
10/6	Mary Hardin Baylor	Home	2 pm Women/4 pm Men
10/12	Texas Lutheran	Seguin	1 pm Women/3 pm Men
10/13	Schreiner	Kerrville	1 pm Women/3 pm Men
10/18	East Texas Baptist	Home	6 pm Women/8 pm Men
10/20	LeTourneau	Home	2 pm Women/4 pm Men
10/27	UT-Tyler	Home	2 pm Women/4 pm Men

All soccer home games are played at St. Francis Field in Austin. These schedules are tentative and subject to change. Visit the website at www.concordia.edu/athletics for a list of non-conference games and for dates and times.

Student Awards

The following Concordia athletic awards were recently presented to students:

Sportsmanship Award
Michelle Heckmann
Mario Beltran

Scholar Athlete Award
Megan Rogers
Dan Darden
Athlete of the Year
Michelle Heckmann
Joel McDonald

Newsbriefs



American Southwest Conference (ASC) pitcher of the year, first team all west ASC and third team all west region.



hosts the top talent in the country.



award is given to two student-athletes, one male and one female, who best display the attributes of sportsmanship, leadership, citizenship and academic integrity in their athletic, academic and life pursuits. Heckmann is the first Concordia student to be awarded this honor.

Senior Secondary Education major Jonathan Miller finished second in the NCAA with 102 total strikeouts. He was also named

Alumna Scott Shepperd '07 was selected as the assistant coach of the Anchorage Bucks for the summer. The Bucks are part

Junior Elementary Education major Michelle Heckmann was honored with the ASC Fred Jacoby Female Sportsmanship award. This

Concordia is on a journey of bold transformation! The journey began with the decision to relocate the main campus to the beautiful Austin Hill Country Reserve.

When the Board of Regents made this decision, the University also began a strategic plan to address not only the relocation but other aspects of Concordia's future. As part of this process, we began to carefully consider how we communicate with the public—our current students, faculty and staff, as well as potential students, parents, business leaders and the community at large.

The Board of Regents, Administrative Council and a committee of other members of the faculty and student body have spent the last six months considering the name of the University, the school logo and seal.

Since our establishment in 1926, the University has undergone a number of name changes as the institution itself has changed. After much careful consideration, it was determined that our current name, Concordia University at Austin, does not reflect the statewide reach of the University. With regional campuses in Houston, San Antonio, Fort Worth and Fredericksburg, Concordia's reach extends far beyond Austin. In light of this, the Board of Regents has made the historic decision to change the name of the school to:

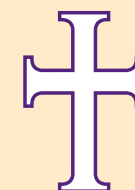
Concordia University Texas

While this new name reflects our future vision, it also represents our history. When Concordia first opened in 1926, the name was Lutheran Concordia College of Texas. With this new name, we are both moving ahead and returning to our traditions.

To go along with this name change, we have worked with a team of designers to create a consistent graphic look that includes a new logo and school seal that represents the mission, history and future of the University. This new image focuses on our Christian identity and our pursuit of academic excellence.



*A Bold
Vision
and a
Blessed
Journey*



The cross at the center represents our Christian tradition and mission.



The descending dove, a white dove with a three-rayed nimbus, represents the Holy Spirit.



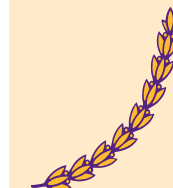
The lamp of knowledge denotes the role of the University to enlighten its students both intellectually and spiritually.



The book has dual meaning. It is a book of knowledge, both of faith (the Bible) and of all worldly knowledge.



The Luther Rose is the Lutheran Church's most recognized symbol. Also known as the Luther Seal, it represents our Lutheran ethos.



Olive branches are symbols with origins in Ancient Greece that signify peace and prosperity.

The Greek words are translated as, "With God we shall do valiantly," which comes from Psalm 108:13. This was the text and translation used in the first opening service held in 1926.



College of Adult Education Dean, Cathy Brigham, Ph.D.

Our College is pleased to announce an addition to our Dallas / Fort Worth Center. Dr. Mary May joins the College of Adult Education as Center Director for that region. In that role, Dr. May will direct the area's Accelerated Degree Program (ADP), advise all students in the program and hire new adjunct faculty. Prior to joining Concordia University, Dr. May served at San Jacinto College since 1986 in a variety of positions, including Vice President, Academic Dean and Department Chair. Dr. May has a strong background in adult and continuing education. She is the author of several publications with topics ranging from internet resources for the college classroom to standardized testing. Over the past eight years, she has spoken at the local, state and national levels on issues including developing curriculum and professional leadership development. We are thrilled to have someone with such

experience demonstrate great enthusiasm for our work in the Dallas and Fort Worth areas. Dr. May is deeply motivated by our mission to equip adult learners to be servant-leaders. Our uniquely designed program allows adults an opportunity to attend classes in the evening in order to complete their degree. By serving this under-recognized population, our College helps to raise the overall community environment, while also offering students the opportunity to be exposed to, or learn more about, the word of God.



College of Business Dean, Don Christian

The College of Business graduated 20 students this past spring, including Kenneth Skadal who entered the management training program for Hyatt Hotels this June. Kenny, who also played baseball for Concordia, will be following in his father's footsteps who serves as the Senior Director of Sales & Marketing for the Houston Hyatt. Twelve College of Business students were inducted into Sigma Beta Delta, the honor society for students of business and business management. The induction took place on April 27 at Concordia's Evening of Honors where Susan Dawson, Executive Director of the E3 Alliance, served as the evening's speaker. Senior Ashley Tufford received the TSCPA (Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants) annual award, which is presented each year to Concordia's outstanding student concentrating in accounting. Joel McDonald, COB student and member of the basketball team,

was awarded Concordia's Male Athlete of the Year at the Student Honor Awards Assembly on April 26. On April 25, the COB's Leadership & Business class sponsored an Evening of Awareness on Concordia's campus. This event was a class project that students used to practice leadership, bringing attention to problems in Africa, including AIDS, poverty and genocide. Students hosted the event on the baseball field, which culminated with the showing of *Hotel Rwanda*. The final installment for this past year's Spend Your Lunch With... Speaker Series featured Dick Moeller, CEO and President of the St. David's Community Foundation. Following the talk, Mr. Moeller had lunch with five COB students and Dean Christian. The series will resume on Thursday, September 6. The International Business Seminar will again spend time in Eagle Pass and Piedras Negras studying the effect of business on both sides of the US/Mexico border. The trip is planned for November 16-20. For more information and pictures, visit the College of Business website.

College of Education Dean, Sandra Doering, Ed.D. '69



The word to describe what has been going on in the College of Education these past few months is "CHANGE".

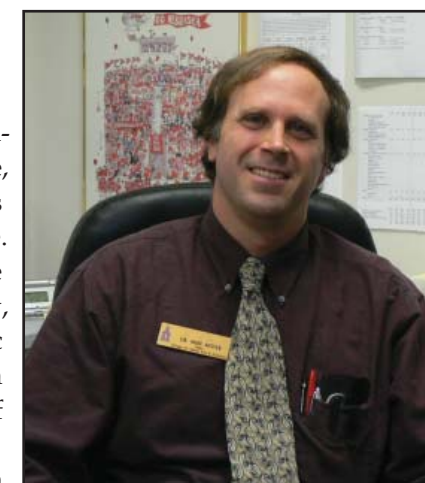
We saw the departure of Prof. Serena Pace, Associate Director of the DCE program. She has returned to parish work at Prince of Peace Lutheran in Carrollton, TX. Our DCE program director, Dr. Jim McConnell, plans to conduct an extensive search to find Prof. Pace's replacement.

We experienced large growth in our Master of Education program. This time last year we had about 85 graduate students. Now we have over 400, with approximately 200-250 more entering in the fall semester. Because of this rapid growth in the graduate program, we have hired Dr. Michael Wallace to be the Director of Graduate Programs. We are very happy to have him join our team. We believe his leadership will move our graduate program to greater excellence. Dr. Wallace will be looking to fill four faculty positions who will be deployed to Houston, San Antonio, Dallas/Ft.Worth and Austin to help him oversee the off-campus M.Ed. cohort program. We also have a new program coordinator, Megan Carter, for the off-campus M.Ed. cohort program. Megan brings much expertise in the area of off-campus coordination of programs and we are blessed to have her.

We are continuing to pursue the expansion of our Kinesiology Major to include a specialization in Athletic Training. It is our hope that this program will be ready to implement by the time we move to the new campus. We are also looking at hiring another Kinesiology professor to support this expansion.

There are many changes taking place in the College of Education, but our fervent love for our Lord and our desire to do His will in all our ministries as a response to His saving grace through Jesus Christ remains our focus.

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean, Michael Moyer, Ph.D.



Work is proceeding feverishly on many fronts! The two R's of this summer are Relocation and Reaccreditation. Both are vital to our future, and we have deadlines approaching with both of them. By now the designs for what the new west campus will look like are substantially complete. There is a lot we do not know, and things change rapidly, but the big picture is pretty clear. As soon as the permitting process is completed with the city, a lot will happen in a short time. The reality though, is that on the academic side of things, we will not need to keep abreast of all that is happening on that front, for we will continue to be busy carrying out the primary task of the University, developing Christian leaders.

Every ten years universities must go through a reaccreditation process in which they demonstrate to outside reviewers that they are providing a quality education. We will be reaccredited next year, and while we have been working on this for several years now, the major submission of documentation will be done in late August. We are busy documenting all of the assessment and results for the programs, or more accurately, gathering all of that information together for submission. The bottom line is that in everything we do, we have to keep asking ourselves how can we get better and what are we going to change to move us to a higher level. Then, we must make those changes, determine how that change has moved us forward and then repeat the process. No matter how good we may be, and there are a lot of evidence indicating that we provide an excellent education to our students, there is always room to get better.

There are changes all around us, but they are by and large good changes. It is going to be an exciting year. We are doing well and getting better. With God's help we will continue to strive to serve Him as we serve our students and our community.

Recommended...

by Concordia's faculty and staff

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek

by Annie Dillard (Harper's Magazine Press, 1974)

Annie Dillard is my favorite writer on the mysteries of creation, particularly that microcosm that exists near Tinker Creek, Virginia. This book is really a series of essays roughly gathered under the theme of "nature." But the book is far more than that. When I first read this in my twenties, Dillard helped me see God's creation for the first time... REALLY see it ... in all its simplicity, majesty, beauty, violence, sacredness and wildness.

From Rev. Carl Trovall

Assistant Professor of Religion

The History of Love

by Nicole Krauss (W.W. Norton, 2005)

This novel is told from the points of view of Holocaust survivors Leo Gursky (who is especially entertaining) and Zvi Litvinoff, and fourteen year old Alma Singer and her younger brother Bird (who thinks he might be the Messiah, or at least one of 36 holy people on whom the fate of the world depends). This multi-layered story spans decades and continents and tells of the strength and fidelity of love. Krauss brilliantly weaves together several stories and creates characters who are completely believable with completely distinct voices. But beyond the beauty of the prose and the mastery of the craft of writing that she shows, Krauss tells an affirming and redemptive story that reminds the reader of the truth and hope of love. It's a story that lingers long after it ends.

From Sherrah Holobaugh '00

Director of University

Communications

He fell in love. It was his life.

—Nicole Krauss

The History of Love

Gilead by Marilynne Robinson (Farar, Straus and Giroux, 2004)

This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is written as a series of messages from an Iowa pastor to his son, which in itself is an inventive use of form, and spans the life and ancestry of someone who managed to always find the divine within the mundane, or even within the horrific. This is not a unique theme, but Robinson creates a pitch-perfect voice for delivering the storyline—a voice that blends lyrical prose with raw realism. Also, like most books I enjoy, it raises more questions than it answers.

From Amy Root

Assistant Professor of English

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek

These are morning matters, pictures you dream as the final wave heaves you up on the sand to the bright light and drying air.

—Annie Dillard

Beloved by Toni Morrison (Knopf, 1987)

One cannot go wrong with any of Morrison's eight novels. However, *Beloved* is generally conceded to be her masterpiece and with good reason. It is an artistic triumph, using stream of consciousness technique in ways that have not been used before to enable the characters to remember and reconstruct a past that is too terrible to be recalled. Hence, the past experiences have been buried deep and must be excavated both by the narrative and by the reader so that these experiences can be brought into consciousness. As Morrison herself says, "I work hard when I write these novels. I intend for the reader to work as hard as I worked when the reader reads one of my novels." And *Beloved* is hard work, not just because of its artistic intricacies, but also because of its subject matter. The subject at hand was too horrible for the main character to remember. However, Morrison believes that healing can occur only if and when these too painful memories are brought to light. Many students in my course wherein I teach the Morrison novels recoil from reading the horror that was slavery. Morrison WANTS the reader to recoil in horror so that the healing and understanding can begin. The situation is that eighteen years ago in the 1850's Sethe (a runaway slave) killed her two-year toddler rather than surrender the baby girl to the threatening slave hunters who had arrived to take her daughter back into slavery. Now, eighteen years later, a twenty year old young woman appears from out of nowhere at Sethe's house. The young woman says that her name is "Beloved." Soon, the reader is given sufficient clues to identify Beloved as the ghost of the murdered child. It is difficult to deny the facts of the past when the incarnation of those facts is standing there before you in physical form. Sethe and the reader now must deal with the events of the past. It is important for African American readers and for white readers, and indeed for all readers, to know the wounds and the suffering inflicted by the institution of slavery...and how those wounds from the past (absent the necessary healing) have manifested themselves even today in haunting ways.

From Dr. Susan Stayton

Professor of English

The Gift and Task of Lutheran Higher Education

by Tom Christenson (Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2004)

This book provides insight into the nature of Lutheran higher education, its motivation, its message, its uniqueness within Lutheranism and its philosophical underpinnings, including its epistemology and its goals.

From Dr. Joel Heck

Professor of Religion

Vanity Fair, a Novel without a Hero by William Makepeace Thackeray (1811-1863)

A ripping good read and wickedly funny, *Vanity Fair* is Thackeray at his best. It's a "classic" that we all should read, yet never seem to get around to doing so, and that's a shame. If you saw the movie, I'm sorry (Reese Witherspoon should apologize too). The book is a brilliant satire of 19th century England society and its myriad hypocrisies. Becky Sharp, our anti-heroine, is one of the most fascinating figures in all of literature and the omniscient narrator draws blood with his irony-laced revelations of his characters' hearts.

From Adrian Erb

Reference/Serials Librarian

The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century

by Thomas L. Friedman (Farrar, Straus, Reese, and Giroux, 2005)

This is an optimistic view of how the world is responding to globalization. If you've read Friedman's *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, which offered Friedman's insight into the dynamic elements of globalization, then you will surely find *The World is Flat* an interesting complement to his first work.

From Gary Belcher

Director of Institutional

Effectiveness

Finding God in the Questions: A Personal Journey

by Timothy Johnson (InterVarsity Press, 2004)

This is a strong personal account of faith and what being a follower of Jesus, beyond simple ritualistic Christianity, means to the author. I found it thought provoking. The first few chapters detail some justifications for God's existence. I found this not to suggest an earthly basis for faith but rather a glorification of the majesty of God and the beauty of his creation. In the words of the author from the first chapter: "For many people religion provides answers (or at least a sense of security) to the big question of life. For others the absolute claims of religion raise more questions than they answer. I have lived on both sides—and in some senses I still do. My path of faith has wandered through both doubt and belief, often at the same time. Doubt doesn't have to tear down belief, however; it can purify it. When it does, the beliefs on the other side become more certain. This is why I would like to affirm that it is possible to find God even while you are still asking the big questions."

From Dr. Alan Runge

Provost

Over the Edge: Death in Grand Canyon

by Thomas M. Myers and Michael P. Ghiglieri (Puma Press, 2001)

Written by a medical doctor who treated hundreds of injuries in the Grand Canyon and a biologist who leads Grand Canyon river trips, this is not merely a book about death and the accidents that have occurred in one of the most visited natural wonders in the world. Certainly you will learn much about various tragedies, but the book also includes many stories about how people managed to survive when everything seemed to be stacked against them. The book spends a lot of time exploring what went wrong in many different scenarios, attempting to find what can be learned from the various cases to prevent tragedies in the future. I may encourage the reading of at least portions of this book for students the next time we lead a course to visit Grand Canyon.

From Dr. Michael Moyer

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Cold Mountain

We mark some days as fair, some as foul, because we do not see that the character of every day is identical.

—Charles Frazier

Cold Mountain

by Charles Frazier (Atlantic Monthly Press, 1997)

Cold Mountain is a thrilling adventure/love story set during the Civil War. Inman, a wounded Confederate soldier, has deserted and is attempting to return to his home on Cold Mountain, North Carolina, where hopefully Ada will be waiting for him. The book alternates between accounts of Inman's terror-filled adventures as he tries to evade the Southern troops bent on killing "outliers" (deserters) and Ada's equally difficult attempts to provide for herself after her father's death.

From Tom Orton

Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Geography, and History

The Brothers Karamazov

If they drive God from the earth, we shall shelter Him underground. — Fyodor Dostoevsky

Shadow Divers

by Robert Kurson (Random House, 2004)

This book was fascinating on several levels. It is a mystery, with individuals looking for and seeking to identify something that is not supposed to be there. This is not an attempt to seek riches, for all involved know that there will be no riches involved. It does focus on the importance of seeing things through and explores the bonds of friendship between men who originally considered each other anything but friends. It is a true story of average individuals attempting to stretch their limits beyond what most thought was possible. At times individuals involved go beyond their limits and their results are examined.

From Dr. Michael Moyer

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Beach Music

by Pat Conroy (Doubleday, 1995)

This is my all time favorite book, and a perfect summer read. The story is great, but more important is Conroy's gift with the English language. For a special treat, listen to the Recorded Audio reading by Frank Muller, whose voice does justice to Conroy's words. It's 28 hours of listening, but well worth it. (I own it if anyone wants to borrow it). Many thanks to Dr. Betty Scroggin (former Concordia English Professor) for introducing me to Conroy's writing.

From Kristi Kirk '95

Director of Enrollment Planning

American Gospel: God, the Founding Fathers, and the Making of a Nation by Jon Meacham (Random House, 2006)

This book offers a balanced assessment of religion and politics from a historical perspective.

From Dr. Debra Allen

Professor of History

Mere Christianity

by C.S. Lewis (1898-1963)

This book has sold more than eleven million copies and contains a classic summary of Christian teachings. Written in clear and concise prose, Lewis combines his powerful rational skills with those of his imagination to produce a very readable work that has been hailed by many as the single most important theological work of the twentieth century.

From Dr. Joel Heck

Professor of Religion

No Man Knows My History: The Life of Joseph Smith

by Fawn M. Brodie (Vintage, 1995, 2nd edition)

More than 50 years after it was first published, *No Man Knows My History* is still considered the definitive biography of Joseph Smith. Brodie's work is both lively and well-researched. Her depiction of Joseph Smith, an illiterate New England farm boy who founded his own religion out of equal parts bravado and charm, is a fascinating glimpse into the cult of personality. Brodie was excommunicated from the Latter Day Saints Church for this book and went on to write other excellent biographies on American figures such as Thomas Jefferson.

From Adrian Erb

Reference/Serials Librarian

The Confessions

by St. Augustine (354-430 AD)

This is another deeply influential book for me as a person and as a theologian. Not only is it a personal memoir (autobiography, yet written completely as a prayer to God) and theological treatise of how God found St. Augustine, but it is also a book of philosophy that personally explores questions of time, evil, freedom, grace, identity and human suffering.

From Rev. Carl Trovall

Assistant Professor of Religion

The Portrait of a Lady

by Henry James (1843-1916)

This book is hilarious. A great observation on human nature, especially on the maturation process and pride.

From Dr. Cathy Brigham

Dean of the College of Adult Education

The Brothers Karamazov

by Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1881)

This classic novel, to me, summed up life and death and suffering and ethics and psychology and philosophy and faith. Daunting in its length, I could not put it down. I read about myself and my world on every page, revisiting many of the hard ethical and theological questions I have asked since Confirmation.

From Rev. Carl Trovall

Assistant Professor of Religion

Isaac's Storm

by Erik Larson (Vintage, 2000)

A wonderfully researched and painfully descriptive piece of historical fiction about the Galveston Hurricane of 1900. This is a great read, and it is a good set-up for a trip to the coast, where you can visit historical markers and sites mentioned in the book. This book will put a personal touch on weather as we enter the hurricane season.

From Dr. Cathy Brigham

Dean of the College of Adult Education

Money's a horrid thing to follow, but a charming thing to meet.

— Henry James

Executive Values

by Kurt Senske (Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 2003)

This book is a must read for anyone moving into positions of leadership and decision-making. It defines the influence of Christian values and beliefs on leadership and management issues. A central point is the "Golden Rule" of "So in everything, do to others, what you would have them do to you..." (Matt. 7:12). Our leadership success hinges on the people we surround ourselves with and with whom we contact or serve. Doing the right thing will always win out for success. He goes into detail crystallizing the "right thing" in various contexts. Kurt is an Austinite, a Concordia alumnus and a graduate from Valparaiso University.

From Dr. Alan Runge

Provost

A Random Walk Down Wall Street

by Burton G. Malkiel (W.W. Norton, 2007, 9th Edition) and *Dictionary of Finance and Investment Terms*

by John Downes and Jordan Elliot Goodman (Barron's Educational Series, 2006, 7th Edition)

I highly recommend *A Random Walk Down Wall Street* as an antidote to much of the mythology of Wall Street and the securities industry. Malkiel is Chemical Bank Professor of Finance at Princeton, and he offers a lot of practical advice for the small investor. While people in the securities industry have loved to hate this book for over 20 years, it is required reading for anybody who plans to invest in stocks, either directly or through IRA's, 401k's, 403b's, etc. The *Dictionary of Finance and Investment Terms* provides definitions of much of the Wall Street jargon that can be so confusing to investors and others who are not part of the securities industry. Someone who wants to learn about investing can use this and Malkiel's book to cut through much of the mythology and make much more sound investment decisions. I personally require students in my Investments course to read the Malkiel book as a supplement to the required text, and I also require all students in any of my finance courses to obtain a copy of this dictionary.

From Dr. Woodard Springstube

Associate Professor of Business/Economics

Power, Terror, Peace, and War: America's Grand Strategy in a World at Risk

by Walter Russell Mead (Knopf, 2004)

This is a well-balanced presentation on the policy of the Bush Administration within the context of U.S. Grand Strategy. As we move toward the 2008 Presidential Election, Mead offers an insightful look at America's historical approach to the world as well as the many divisive issues facing the U.S. on the world stage and among the American people.

From Gary Belcher

Director of Institutional Effectiveness

The Christian Mind: How Should a Christian Think?

by Harry Blamires (Regent College Publishing, 2005)

Harry Blamires helps Christians to understand the uniqueness of the Christian perspective, for example, its sacramental flavor, in approaching modern society.

From Dr. Joel Heck

Professor of Religion

To Kill a Mockingbird

by Harper Lee (Heinemann, 1960, 9th Edition)

This is one of my favorite novels about race in small town America during the Great Depression.

From Dr. Debra Allen

Professor of History

To Kill a Mockingbird
Mockingbirds don't do one thing but make music for us to enjoy....
That's why it's a sin to kill a mockingbird. — Harper Lee

The Language of God

by Francis Collins (Free Press, 2006)

Dr. Collins is a physician-geneticist, noted for his landmark discoveries of disease genes and his leadership of the Human Genome Project. He is director of the National Human Genome Research Institute and is outspoken about his Christian faith. He does an interesting job of sharing a perspective by which one can be uncompromising in representing the science profession according to the philosophy by which scientists do science — and yet remain faithful to God's Word.

From Dr. Laurence Meissner

Professor of Biology

There are no Shortcuts

by Rafe Esquith (Pantheon Books, 2003)

Through the context of personal narrative, Rafe Esquith shares the evolution of his personal philosophy for teaching. First, Esquith describes the trials encountered in his student teaching experiences. Then, he recaps incidents that led him to the realization that, be one teaching or learning, there are indeed no shortcuts to excellence!

From Dr. Mary Voelker

Assistant Professor of Education

Special Providence: American Foreign Policy and How It Changed the World

by Walter by Russell Mead (Knopf, 2001)

This book provides a paradigm of four "schools" of thought concerning the interplay of economics, democracy, populism and morality that have been part of the history of U.S. foreign policy and that can serve as a guide to the foreign policy challenges the U.S. faces today.

From Dr. Debra Allen
Professor of History

The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary

by Simon Winchester (HarperCollins, 1998)

This book cites such information as the fact that the word "witch" is an acronym (see page 57) and that double entendres are present even in dictionaries; viz. "éclair" long on body, but short on duration. The book is really a study in integrity as regards leadership and mission in the face of financial perils and editorial bigots. Super read!

From Dr. Clyde Duder
Professor of English

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd (Viking Adult, 2002)

This is another one of those simultaneous combination laugh/cry novels. It is also a novel which I have come to use in most of my American and Feminist courses. I like to think of this novel as the female version of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. The endearing pre-adolescent heroine is on a personal quest with an older African American woman as "chaperone." Lily, like Huck, is running away from an abusive father and from a racist community, living by her wits, surviving by spinning whopper lies and changing identities as fast as the duo changes towns. At the heart of things, Lily is searching for something that will connect her with her deceased mother. The most compelling clue is the label on a jar of honey with the logo of a black Madonna and the name of a small town in South Carolina. Thus begins the pilgrimage that leads Lily and her companion Rosaleen to a "Pepto Bismol" pink house inhabited by three entirely eccentric African American sisters: May, June, and August Boatwright. August, the matriarch, is an experienced bee-keeper who seems to have a sixth sense about many things, including Lily's true identity. After Lily is "adopted" by these Boatwright sisters, she learns the bee-keeping business and receives her first kiss from a boy. Through August's gentle guidance, Lily gradually learns the connection between August and Lily's mother. In the by-no-means-easy process, Lily gains a community of black women, a religion AND a spirituality, a deeper understanding of human nature, the capacity for forgiveness, and (most powerful of all) the way to nurture and strengthen herself. There are plenty of comic touches juxtaposed to painful tragedies, reflecting exactly the texture and the nature of real life. For unforgettable comedy, there are the descriptions of the hats worn by the women to the unusual worship service which is conducted in August's living room. These women finally bestow upon Lily's head her very own hat, which Lily describes as looking like the Pope's mitre. Juxtaposed to the hilarity is the torment of May, who feels all the pain of people suffering anywhere in the world. To blot out this pain, May must sing "Oh Susanna" as a mantra and must stick hand-written notes in her wailing wall, until the pain finally becomes too great for her to bear. Many students have told me that this novel has life-changing properties to it.

From Dr. Susan Stayton
Professor of English

The Secret Life of Bees

The bees came the summer of 1964, the summer I turned fourteen and my life went spinning off into a whole new orbit, and I mean a whole new orbit.

—Sue Monk Kidd

Loving God with all of your Mind: Thinking as a Christian in the Post-Modern World

by Gene Edward Veith (Crossway Books, 2003)

I just re-read this one and am reminded again of the importance of a Biblical worldview in modern times.

From Kristi Kirk '95
Director of Enrollment Planning

The First Man in Rome (Masters of Rome Series)

by Colleen McCullough (William Morrow & Co, 1990)

Focusing on the political machinations of the late Roman Republic, these books inspired the HBO "Rome" series and are historical fiction at its finest. The first book follows the endeavors of Gaius Marius and Lucius Cornelius Sulla, two very different men who each wish to become the First Man in Rome. Exhaustively researched and full of complex characters that both fascinate and repel, this book features ancient Roman life in all its brilliance and outrage.

From Adrian Erb
Reference/Serials Librarian

Even the illusion of perimeters fails when families are separated.

—Marilynne Robinson

Housekeeping

by Marilynne Robinson (Picador, reprint edition, 2004)

Housekeeping tells the story of Ruthie and Lucille, whose mother left them with their grandmother and then drove her car off a cliff. After their grandmother dies, two eccentric great aunts care for them until the girls' Aunt Sylvie moves in. While they live in the same house throughout these changes in guardianship, there is a feeling of transiency about their lives, which is only intensified by Sylvie's own transient nature. It is a story about loss and loneliness, about finding a mother and a home. By far the most beautifully written book I have read in years, I felt like I could have read it forever just to enjoy the beauty of the language.

From Sherrah Holobaugh
Director of University Communications

My Freshman Year

by Rebekah Nathan (Cornell University Press, 2005)

I would recommend this book to all college instructors and parents of college-aged students. The author of this book, a sociology professor and researcher, takes a year sabbatical from teaching to enroll in the university where she teaches to become a first-year student. The book is an easy read, but offers much insight into the culture and life among college students. It was certainly helpful to me to read about her journey through the year from the viewpoint of a student and how it has helped her to become a better professor.

From Dr. Jim McConnell
DCE Program Director and
Assistant Professor of Education

The Minutemen and Their World

by Robert A. Gross (Hill and Wang, 1976)

The Minutemen and Their World focuses on Concord, Massachusetts, and its role in the years leading up to, and the beginning of, the Revolutionary War in 1775. This book is an example of the new Social History of the 1960's and 1970's which typically emphasizes the part played by the common folk rather than prime ministers, generals, bankers, etc. One example is the discussion of the rapidly rising population in agricultural communities, such as Concord in the 1700's, which resulted in less crop production per person and may have been partially responsible for dissatisfaction with British policies and the subsequent revolution.

From Tom Orton
Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Geography, and History

The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency and *The Kalahari Typing School for Men*

by Alexander McCall Smith (Polygon, 1999, 2002)

Both of these books take place in Botswana. They are not heavy academic hitters, but sweet and funny little books that examine how our elders often have a lot to offer in the way of humor, life experience, and good sense. A great summer vacation read!

From Dr. Donna Janes
Assistant Professor of Biology

The Secret Life of Dust

by Hannah Holmes (Wiley, 2001)

An engrossing book all about dust—how far it travels, what it carries with it and how it impacts weather. You will learn how dust impacts our daily lives, our environment and our health. This book is so informative, and will change your view of ordinary dust forever. Warning: this book may make you want to temporarily live in a bubble.

From Dr. Cathy Brigham
Dean of the College of Adult
Education

Recommended... by Students

Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky (1821-1881) is an amazingly well-written book that delves into the psychology of a criminal before, during, and after his crime. It outlines the main character as a person, not just as a law-breaker. Also, Leo Tolstoy's (1828-1910) *The Death of Ivan Ilych* is a story of a dying man frustrated by the busybodies of his family around him in his death. It is very interesting. I also recommend Gerhard O. Forde's *On Being a Theologian of the Cross: Reflections on Luther's Heidelberg Disputation, 1518* (Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1997). It is a great look at the Christocentric essence of Lutheranism as Forde compares the theology of the Cross with the theology of glory in systematic and practical terms. From James Prothro, Senior Liberal Arts/Pre-Seminary Student

Quo Vadis by Henryk Sienkiewicz (1846-1916) is one of my favorite books of all time. It's an amazing book about the Christians in Rome right before and during the burning of Rome. It has adventure, romance, drama and suspense—everything you could ask for in one book. It looks long, but it isn't boring at any point, and by the time you're finished, you want more.

From Kristen Boyd, Senior Behavioral Sciences Student

Captivating by John and Stasi Eldridge (Thomas Nelson, 2005) is an inspiring model and explanation for what a woman of God should be. And *Dear Church* by Sarah Cunningham (Zondervan, 2006) is an address and explanation to the church as a whole from a generation that is frustrated and disillusioned with the Christian church. It is eye-opening and affirming for one's own feelings and thoughts about the church.

From Candice Bielss, Senior Behavioral Sciences and Director of Christian Education Student

Literature in the Classroom

Using Fiction to Teach Business

by Donald Christian, Dean of the College of Business

I decided (with some prompting by a colleague) to make summer 2006 my “Summer of Fiction.” I chose to read nothing but fiction (because it is so easy for us college-types to only read non-fiction within our own disciplines) and commenced upon the task with the beginning of my two-week vacation in Maine. What I discovered in these books of fiction were numerous examples of what I believed to be the best and worst of leadership and management skills, attitudes and behaviors. And so began a journey to find examples of great literature that would help students learn about management and leadership.

I began by asking my colleagues who teach English Literature what they might recommend. I received many titles, but settled on two: *The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit* by Sloan Wilson (which we used in Principles of Management) and *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding (which we used in Leadership & Business). I approached this way of teaching a bit tenuously, as classes in the College of Business most often use a regular textbook. We entered into reading the novel a little over half way into the semester, using it to explore different theories discussed earlier. By the time we finished the novel, I realized that this had made an impact and decided that it would be used as a teaching tool from this point forward.

On the end-of-semester class evaluations, students gave the reading of fiction a big thumbs-up. They read the book; they discussed the book; and they suggested the book be read in future classes. When asked why they responded so positively, their replies included:

- It was real life, not just textbook theory.
- It was a story in which I became involved and wanted to see what happened.
- Characters in the book faced ethical and moral challenges that made me think.
- There were so many examples from which to understand leadership practices.
- It was fun!

Using fiction to teach business allows me to engage students on a different level. Because the principles of management and leadership are not laid out word for word, students use their critical thinking skills to find them within the story. Reading—and reading critically—is a skill my students and I are both constantly working to improve. Anytime I can get students to read good

literature, I feel as if we are all better people for having engaged in that exercise.

I have also found that using literature enables us to more easily engage in discussion of the theological implications of business. When readers encounter Ralph and Jack in *Lord of the Flies*, they can't help but realize that our natural state is one of sin and selfish pride. Reading about tragic figures in great literature forces us to look in the mirror and admit that we, too, are sinful human beings. The ability of Tom Rath (*The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit*) to start over, after receiving forgiveness from his wife, provides a place to talk about how Christian leaders practice the act of forgiveness. Seeing how Simon (*Lord of the Flies*) suffers as a result of his wanting to do the right things creates the opportunity to discuss the theology of the cross. As Tom Rath struggles with the commitments at work, discussions of vocation come into play.

So what's next? I will keep having classes read *The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit* and *Lord of the Flies*. I will begin to add novels to other classes as time permits. I will look at other media in which to teach business principles including film, poetry, video games and drama. And finally, I will encourage students, and myself, to keep reading fiction, because in reading we learn more about ourselves and how we relate to a world that was created, redeemed, and continues to be provided for by the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Don Christian is Dean of the College of Business at Concordia University. He previously served as Headmaster at Lutheran High North in Houston, TX, and has spoken on leadership topics at several conferences. He is currently completing doctoral coursework in Organizational Leadership.

Other Recommended Fiction for Learning about Leadership and Management:

- “Death of a Salesman” by Arthur Miller (drama)
- Babbitt* by Sinclair Lewis (novel)
- “The Catbird Seat” by James Thurber (short story)
- Something Happened* by Joseph Heller (novel)
- The Killer Angels* by Michael Shaara (novel)
- The Fountainhead* by Ayn Rand (novel)
- “A Man for all Seasons” by Robert Bolt (drama)
- Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe (novel)

Literature Comes to Life

Toni Morrison and the Sites of Memory

by Susan Dean Stayton, Ph.D.

For those damaged by the wounds of the past, Toni Morrison's novels are to be read for healing.

For those oblivious to the wounds of the past, Toni Morrison's novels are to be read for learning.

These were perceptions generated by the class members of the Spring 2006 Toni Morrison course as they expressed the relevance of Toni Morrison's novels for a class composed of eight white students and one white professor. I thought the students did a fine job of expressing the ineffable power of Morrison's writing, especially since Ms. Morrison herself declares openly and with some pride that she has deliberately created novels that are a mega-challenge to read: “I want the reader to have to work as hard reading, as I worked writing.” And believe me, every reader does have to work that hard, often times encountering material in the narrative that is unbelievably and unimaginably painful. Even though it is to be wished that she were exaggerating the painful experiences of black slaves, Morrison is simply doing what she promised to do in *Beloved*: Speak the unspeakable. And for this courage, she was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1998.

Focusing on *Beloved*, the Fourth Biennial Toni Morrison Conference held in Cincinnati could have had this as its theme: “You have to go back to the hurting place (no matter how much you don't want to) if you are ever going to heal.” The time of this conference was spent going back “to the hurting place” both literally and figuratively, as we took a field trip back to the actual places where the events that inspired *Beloved* took place. Through visiting these sites of memory, we would be giving voice to the people and hearing the voices of the people whom history forgot.

As the final event of the conference, we retraced the actual steps of the historical Margaret Garner, the person on whom the fictional character Sethe is based. Buses carried us from the city of Cincinnati across the Ohio River into northern Kentucky where the terrain began to change into rolling hills covered by impossibly green grass. To be sure, it looked like race-horse Kentucky-derby country. Yet I began to have a creepy feeling, especially after the buses unloaded us onto the grounds of the actual Gaines plantation where part of the main house and a few stones of what

might have been the slave quarters are still standing. Eerily, the property is still in the hands of descendants of the original slave-owning Gaines family. In fact, our docent was Edward Gaines, who was just the tiniest bit defensive in the talk he delivered to us.

It was not a comfortable feeling, standing on this ground listening to him talk. If the conference was designed to make us feel uncomfortable and to awaken us to what Carolyn Denard calls “the hidden secret of slavery,” I was now fully awake as I traveled back in time to think of whips tearing skin off of human backs and iron bits forced into human mouths to prevent talking, swallowing and eating. (There is a myth that says Kentucky slave owners always treated their slaves more kindly than did the slave owners in the deep South. As I stood there, it seemed clear to me that slavery was slavery.) When the docent started telling us about how Margaret Garner had a consensual “affair” with Master Gaines, how she became pregnant with his child, and how she ran off in a petulant fit because Master Gaines wouldn't accept Margaret as his whatever, that was too much for me. I had to leave the guided tour. I took off my shoes because I wanted to walk barefoot in this preternaturally green grass. If one had the slightest capacity for empathy, one could not help but feel the collective suffering remembered at this site. Walking on the ground where Margaret Garner had walked, I grabbed a few stones and acorns to help me remember.

The next leg of the journey from Maplewood to the river landing at Covington, Kentucky, was longer than one might think—twenty miles. Twenty miles that night. Margaret (Sethe) pregnant with one toddler in tow. No lights, no paths, no roads, in the dead of winter because that is when the Ohio River freezes and one can walk across the ice floes. Everyone knows the outcome of the Margaret Garner story. But the actual story is not fiction. It is real. I am at the site, standing face-to-face with slavery.

Dr. Susan Stayton is a Professor of English at Concordia University. While she teaches a variety of literature courses, her passions are American women writers and American ethnic writers. She has taught at Concordia for 38 years.

Through visiting these sites of memory, we would be giving voices to the people and hearing the voices of the people whom history forgot.

Anytime I can get students to read good literature, I feel as if we are all better people for having engaged in that exercise.

This special summer issue of the Concordia Bookshelf features books that our faculty are reading this summer. Whether they are reading for pleasure or for class preparation, their reading interests are as varied as the subjects they teach.

Dr. Debra Allen/Professor of History
Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil by Deborah Rodriguez and Kristin Ohlson

Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America 1789-1989 by Michael Beschloss
The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

Gary Belcher/Director, Institutional Effectiveness
The College Administrator's Survival Guide by C. K. Gunsalus

This book offers some unique insight into the leadership and administrative challenges that exist within the world of academia.

Dr. Cathy Brigham/Dean of the College of Adult Education

I plan on reading *Heart of Darkness*, by Joseph Conrad, this summer in large part because I've never read it, and because it's time that I understand where the line, "The horror! The horror!" really comes from. Also, *The Bizarre Careers of John R. Brinkley*, by R. Alton Lee, will tell me more about the "goat gland" doctor and potential governor of Oklahoma who eventually moved to the Rio Grande Valley. Brinkley eventually set up one of the major stations in early twentieth century border radio, and, he made Wolfman Jack a star. Since the history of music technology is one of my research areas, I am eager to learn more about this odd and possibly dangerous man.

Dr. Allen Brown/Adjunct Instructor of Education and English

I am currently reading *The Professor and the Madman* by Simon Winchester. It is about the fascinating relationship between two men who were intimately responsible for producing the greatest dictionary of the English language, *The Oxford English Dictionary* (OED). One of the most prolific contributors to the dictionary participated from within the walls of an insane asylum.

Dr. Susan Stayton/Professor of English

In preparation for teaching a course on Native American literature, I am reading:
Bury My Heart At Wounded Knee by Dee Brown
Love Medicine by Louise Erdrich
The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven by Sherman Alexie

Rev. Carl Trovall/Assistant Professor of Religion

Rethinking Latino(a) Religion and Identity edited by Miguel A. De La Torre and Gaston Espinosa. A selection of essays that critically explore the ways Latino/as in the United States are philosophically and theologically understanding their religious and cultural identity. Those of us who live in the American Southwest can learn much from these explorations.

Real Sex: The Naked Truth about Chastity by Lauren F. Winner. Winner defends traditional sexual ethics in an extremely honest and candid manner. Chastity, she argues, is difficult, yet critically important in the life of Christians. I'd give this book to my high school and college aged children.

Ethics by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. This book was actually incomplete because the author was executed by the Nazi government before he had a chance to finish the text. In this text, Bonhoeffer attempts to rethink Lutheran moral theology in the context of Hitler's Germany. It has been years since this classic text inspired me for the first time. I am re-reading it in the attempt to gain further insight into Bonhoeffer's Christological grounding of Lutheran ethics, and to see how his insights (along with Reinhold Niebuhr's Christian realism) might apply to the exercise of political power on the domestic and global scenes.

Special Topics in Calamity Physics by Marisha Pessl. An academic murder mystery structured in the form of a college lit class. Each chapter mimics (in some fashion) a literary classic to tell its story. Despite my concern for Pessl's wordiness, I can't wait for the final exam at the end of the story.

Dr. David Zersen/President Emeritus

The God Delusion by Richard Dawkins is one of a number of books on atheism to reach the best-seller list this year. I want to read it to understand the arguments.

Palestine Twilight by Edward Fox is the story of Dr. Albert Glock, a well-known LCMS archaeologist who was mysteriously murdered in Palestine. I want to read it to understand the political and scholarly issues involved in the case.

Who Really Cares: America's Charity Divide – Who Gives, Who Doesn't, and Why it Matters by Arthur Brooks is an assessment of America's charitable giving. I want to read it to understand the motivation for America's astonishing record in charitable giving.

Meet the New Director of Development for Alumni

The Advancement Office has welcomed a new member this summer. Jackie Macha Faulkner joined the office mid-June as the Director of Development for Alumni. In this role, she will align the alumni development effort with the strategic goals of the University. Her responsibilities include communicating and connecting with alumni, directing activities that appropriately represent the University, cultivating potential students, and providing oversight of the Alumni Association and the Concordia History Committee.

Jackie comes to us after spending 16 years on The University of Texas at Austin campus. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in speech communication from the institution and served for many years in the Office of the Vice President for Development and the President's Office.

During her tenure at UT, Jackie developed programs that connected alumni, donors, and other constituents to the university. She has an extensive special events background, having spent six years professionally producing UT donor and alumni events, and continued, for several years, with freelance community projects and charitable events. She served the University of Texas during their first billion dollar capital campaign which began in 1997. Her marketing and communication expertise earned Jackie a UCDA (University and College Designers Association) award for writing and illustration in 2003. Her experience also includes having directed an endowed fellowship program for young faculty and graduate students, administering the state employee charitable campaign, and directing the premiere donor recognition society at UT.

"I felt I was being led to Concordia. I am truly blessed to have this opportunity. This is an exciting time in Concordia history – opening the new campus and developing and implementing new programs. I look forward to connecting with those of you who have made Concordia what it is today, and working with you on our bright future. I am both honored and humbled to be a part of this," she commented.

A native Texan, she lives near Dripping Springs with her husband, Brian, and 11 year old son Christian. Although she will still cheer on her Longhorns each fall, Jackie's heart now belongs to a different university in Texas: Concordia University Texas.



In Memoriam

Rev. Ray Schkade '46 (Emeritus, former executive director of Texas District Parish services) died on Sunday, June 17, after a brief illness. A memorial service was held on Wednesday, June 20, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Austin.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be designated to Lutheran Social Services of the South, CAN-DO Missions or to the Rev. Ray and Kathryn Schkade Endowment Fund at Concordia University Texas.



Lost Alumni

We currently have over 12,000 alumni. Of those, we are missing contact information on almost half of you! Please update your information online at www.concordia.edu/update, or by mailing in the form on page 29. We appreciate you taking the time and look forward to seeing you at our next event.

You could be like Eric Hillin '76! He recently contacted us after meeting a parishioner who works at Concordia. He reminded us that his classmates would affectionately remember him as "Gorilla." He currently lives in Georgetown, TX, with his wife Karla.

Summer Events

The 5th Annual Day at the Dell Diamond was a great success! Over 100 alumni and friends gathered at the Dell Diamond in Round Rock, Texas, on Sunday, June 24, for our annual picnic and baseball game.

Houston Alumni enjoyed the reception held during the LCMS Synodical Convention. The convention proved to be a perfect vehicle for Houston area alumni and those attending the convention to take part in an enjoyable reception and catch up with old friends. Over 200 alumni and friends gathered at the Home Plate Grill for appetizers and good conversation.

Thank you to the entire Advancement Staff, Alumni Board members and all the volunteers who made these events so successful!



1970's

Rev. James W. Menke '77 has accepted a call to Trinity Lutheran Church in Waco, TX.



Karon (Hammond) '78 and William Jurgemeyer celebrated 25 years of marriage with a long-awaited trip to Hawaii. They have three children—Thomas, who is serving in the Air Force; Jodi, who is attending Iowa State University majoring in communications and organ performance; and Brittany, who is a high school sophomore.

1980's

Phil '85 and Amy (Wright) Weaver '93 are proud to announce the birth of their first grandchild, Trinity Grace Anderson, born February 15, weighing 6 lbs. 6 oz.

2000's



Catherine (Griesse) '00 and Jeffrey Bothof of Round Rock are proud to introduce William Wiley born February 28.

Morgan Hamilton '00 recently began serving as pastor of Faith Lutheran in Corsicana, TX.



Ben '01 and Christine (Freet) Meyer '00 announce the birth of Lucille Alta, born April 12. Lucy is welcomed home by big brother Timmy.

Michelle '01 and Jeff Schmitt announce the birth of their second child, Abigail "Abby," born December 2006.



Rev. David '03 and Laura Vandercook present their first child, Allyssa Katherine.



Brody '03 and Megan (Haase) Ockander '04 announce the birth of Eli

Mark on February 21. He was welcomed home by older brother, Korben, 14 mo. Brody is in law school at UNL and will graduate May 2008.



Dan Gregory '05 and Mandy Mauldin were married March 10 at Sunset Baptist Church in Dripping Springs, Texas. Dan is the Media Services Manager at Concordia.



Britney '05 and Shawn Kell recently welcomed **A d e l i n e Brooke** born January 27. She weighed 8lbs. 12oz.

Anything new happening in your life? Let us know! Send in the update form on page 29, or send us an email at alumni@concordia.edu.

First Calls & Vicarage Placement

The following alumni recently received their first call or vicarage placement:

J. Brown '05, vicarage to Faith Lutheran Church in Vista, CA

Andrew Dinger '01, first call to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Somerset, NJ

Derek Evans '04, vicarage to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Twin Falls, ID

Jeffrey King '01, first call to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, William Penn, Texas, TX

Ned Moerbe '05, vicarage to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Columbia, IL

Troy Scroggins '01, first call to Hope Lutheran Church, Topeka, KS

Neil Vanderbush '03, first call to Faith Lutheran Church, Bentonville, AR

David Vandercook '03, first call to Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, Raymondville, TX

If we have left anyone off the list, please let us know and we will include them in the Fall 2007 issue.

Fred Frieling, Jr. HS '59, JC '61

He is a friend to everyone he meets and they a friend to him.

The story of Fred Frieling, Jr. is not only miraculous, it's musical.

In 1926 Fred's father enrolled as one of the inaugural students at Lutheran Concordia College of Texas. Nearly thirty years after his instruction was completed, he sent a succession of five children through the halls of Concordia, including a daughter who broke the gender barrier. Fred Frieling, Jr. was amid that sibling group and graduated from the high school in 1959 and the junior college in 1961. He continued his education at Southwest Texas State University and completed an education degree with hopes of becoming a football coach.

He learned to play the guitar while a student at Concordia and found he not only had a talent, but also a passion, for song writing and singing. He started a band called the Roadrunners with his brother and other Concordia friends and "played sock hops or whenever anyone would want to hear us play." After finishing college Fred said he had a choice to make because "music had already interrupted coaching." So instead of seeing Coach Frieling on the sidelines during the late 1960's and early 1970's, you could find Jess DeMaine in small venues like the Broken Spoke and making the Country Music Review with the likes of Benny McArthur (Ace in the Hole Band). Jess DeMaine, which means "just a man," was the stage name Fred chose for his professional career. He even recorded for local radio play, and, in 1975, Jess DeMaine moved to Nashville to record with Mel Tillis.

It was only his second day in Nashville when he discovered a snake coiled on his motorcycle as he maneuvered down the highway. The surprise overcame him and he lost control of the motorcycle. The resulting crash broke his back and paralyzed him from the waist down. Jess DeMaine would have to return to Texas to recuperate and convalesce and chose to do so in Lubbock. There, Fred wrote "Love Comes from the Other Side of Town." In 1984 this hit song was recorded and released by George Strait on the platinum award winning album *Does Fort Worth Ever Cross Your Mind*. On May 21, 2005, Jess DeMaine was inducted into the Texas Western Swing Hall of Fame.

The mid 1980's brought Fred back to Austin and he continued his music career by starting the Songwriters Studio. While searching for a way to produce a video project, Fred was led back to Concordia in 1991. It was at this time he met Craig Peterson, who offered Fred a position

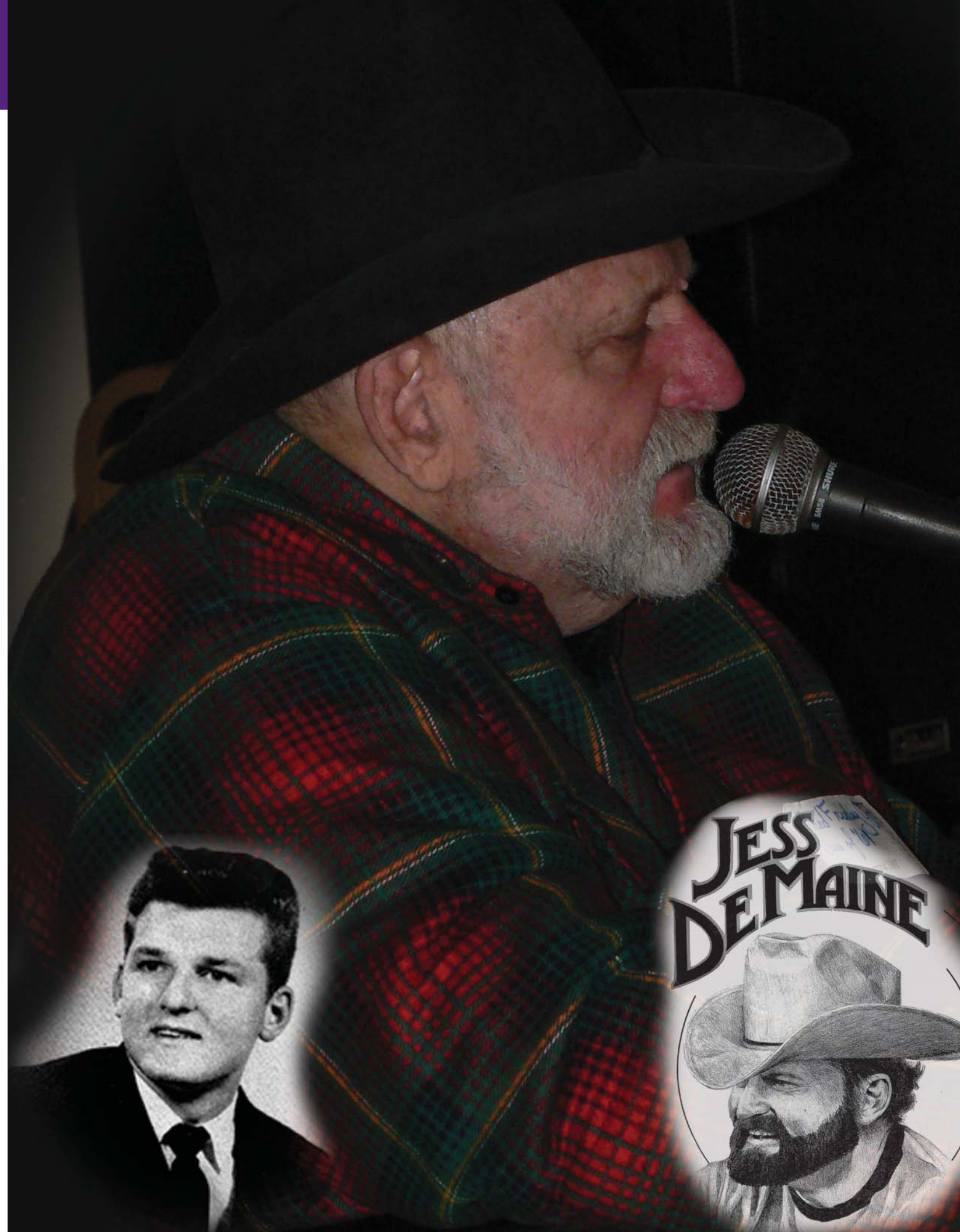
within the College. Some daytime work was appealing at this point in time, so he accepted and found himself working in the dining hall and later with woodwork, having had previous carpentry experience. That same year he and other men of Concordia joined Dr. Larry Meisner and formed the Oakwilt Boys, a musical group comprised entirely of men from the faculty and staff to encourage one another in ministry and to promote the mission through song. Today the Oakwilt Boys perform throughout Texas and produce CD recordings.

When Fred is asked about that fateful day in Nashville he does not offer any enmity. He lifts his head with a smile on his face and recalls it as a blessing. "God has given me the ability to serve and to witness to him. I feel like I'm more of a witness in the chair than I ever could have been walking around," he said. His disposition is genuine and welcoming, humble and endearing. He is a friend to everyone he meets and they a friend to him. Nothing could embody this sentiment more perfectly than the 1999 benefit held in Fred's (Jess De Maine's) honor called "A Home That Works for Jess." Faculty, staff and students of Concordia University held a backyard concert to raise funds to build a handicap accessible home for Fred and his wife. These friends partnered with Main Street Homes and made the dream a reality. This was the first time Fred could move about his house and actually live more comfortably. They moved into the home in 2000.

Fred's most recent work is "Remember When," a special ballad composed for Concordia's 2007 Homecoming celebration. The words recount the history of the University and how the students helped shape this institution as much as the institution shaped the students. The lyrics include, "Concordia began with strong desire to train young leaders and inspire a bond among the gifted young to last a lifetime and beyond."

Fred detailed these many years that both began at and have returned to Concordia. He grinned and said, "When we moved here, I had always wanted to go to Concordia. Once we got here everything was just like I dreamed it was. It was just wonderful. The camaraderie and the students and faculty and everyone was friendly, the way I expected it." Concordia inspired Fred Frieling to pursue a music career. He celebrates great success not only in music but with also in great faith. Faith that life leads you where you need to be.

by Jackie Macha Faulkner, Director of Development for Alumni



Another Story Behind the Winter 2006 Picture

Yikes! I better clarify some of the information about the picture of the four guys on the dorm roof. Yes, it's true the four guys were Dorm Counselors. But I want to assure you that the screen on the outside of that window was one major, hefty, amazingly locked-in-place screen made never to budge from its secure place against that window. My boyfriend and I had neither the tools, nor the ambition it would take for all the work needed to remove that screen in order to get through the window. And see how scrunchy that little window area is? It was hard even getting my arms through there. Nope, no rules broken here. No body is getting through that tiny tight place. So when we wanted to be together we had to resort to easier, more boringly conventional methods, such as eating at the cafeteria or studying in the library. Why do I know so much about this? Because I'm the girlfriend.

Ruth Heinitz '77



Do you have a story you would like to share about your days as a student or employee at Concordia? Mail it to:

Attn: Connections
 Concordia University Texas
 3400 IH 35 North
 Austin, TX 78705
 or email it to:
 connections@concordia.edu.

Every Picture Tells a Story



Know the story behind this picture?

Send an email to connections@concordia.edu identifying the people in the picture and telling the story behind it. We'll publish the story in the next issue along with a new picture!

The Story Behind the Picture

Left to right: Emily Naumann Gehrke '04, Ashley Biggs '06 and Karl Ashcraft '06

This picture was taken during a very rare and unusual "snow storm" my sophomore year of college. For some reason I thought my roommates and I might need a five-foot plastic sled in our dorm room and I brought it back to school after Christmas break. Luckily, we did have an opportunity to use it and in this picture Karl is pushing Emily and I down the hill by the maintenance house. (There is a fence there now.) There were a couple of times after a running start that we made it all the way down the hill and out on to Kim Lane.

A week later I took that same sled down the stairs between the third and fourth floor of Harms Hall. My RA videotaped as I continued past the stairs and went through the wall. Needless to say, the next day I was in Dean's office explaining why there was a sled-sized hole in the wall. He then sent me to the maintenance department where I had to repeat the story again. After the maintenance men were assured that I was fine and they finally stopped laughing at me, I was sent away with a warning. Now I am so happy that the whole incident happened because a couple of months later I started working for the maintenance department and I had the opportunity to work for the most patient and incredible men alive. I was also able to help finish fixing the hole I made.

Ashley Biggs '06



Campus Visit Opportunities

Tornado Watch

September 6-7, 2007, January 17-18, 2008, March 27-28, 2008

Students tour the campus and meet with faculty and staff, as well as stay overnight in the dorms, attend 9:08 (night chapel), and sit in on a class!

Sneak a Peek

October 20, 2007, February 23, 2008

Students can tour campus, meet with faculty, and get important information on Admissions and Financial Aid.

Thanksgiving Visit

November 19, 2007

Similar to Sneak a Peek, but it takes place during Thanksgiving week.

Spring Break at CTX

March 10, 2008

Also similar to Sneak a Peek, but it takes place during spring break.

Tornado Warning

April 14, 2008

Only students who have been accepted for admission and paid deposits can attend Tornado Warning. It's a great opportunity to start building friendships and connecting with the Concordia community.

Mark Your Calendar

Welcome Back Party for Faculty & Staff	August 10
New Student Move-In	August 11
New Commuter Student Check-In	August 11
Week of Welcome	August 11-18
Returning Student Move-In	August 12
The Great T-Shirt Trade-Up	August 12
First Day of Class	August 15
Opening Worship Service	August 15
Excellence in Leadership Gala	August 18
The Great Concordia Church Tour begins	August 19
Offices Closed for Labor Day	September 3
Spend Your Lunch With... Speaker Series featuring Tony Budet of University Federal Credit Union	September 6
Lutheran Woman of the Year Luncheon	September 28
Alumni & Friends New England Trip	Sept. 28 - Oct. 5
Spend Your Lunch With... Speaker Series featuring Jill Kolasinski of KIPP Austin College Prep school	October 4
Family Weekend	October 19-21
Spend Your Lunch With... Speaker Series	November 1
Scholarship Luncheon	November 11

Go to www.concordia.edu for details on these and other events!

Send in your update for the next Alumnotes

Name (last, first, maiden): _____ Class Year & Major: _____
 Spouse: _____ Spouse's Class Year & Major (if applicable): _____
 Street Address: _____ Home Phone: _____
 City, State, Zip: _____ Email: _____
 Is this a new address? Yes/No _____ Website: _____
 Your News: _____

*Photos are welcome and will be used on a space-available basis. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of photographs.

Mail to: Alumni Office, Concordia University Texas, 3400 IH 35 North, Austin, TX 78705; Email: alumni@concordia.edu



Concordia University Texas
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August 18, 2007



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