



SPRING 2001

Concordia New Yorker

The Magazine of Concordia College

Dawnelle Pariset, Pietruski Fellow,
with Dr. John and Bobbie Pietruski

Editor
Susan A. O'Connell

Writers
Diane Klemm
Katie L. Luekens
Paul Schulz
Deric Taylor

Photographers
Elmer Johnson
Lucia Kroeger
Chris Pope

Editorial Consultant
Ralph Dorré

Layout and Design

Seth Boggs
David Dolak

Rachel Leising
CONCORDesign

Concordia University, Nebraska

Editorial Board

John Bahr
Kevin T. Cook
Viji George
Virginia Hromulak
David Jacobson

SPRING 2001

The *Concordia New Yorker* is published by the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Concordia College, 171 White Plains Road, Bronxville, New York 10708, for distribution to alumni/ae, faculty, staff, students, parents and friends of the college. Please send alumni/ae updates, address corrections and other news to *Concordia New Yorker* care of the above address.

You can reach us by phone at 914-337-9300, extension 2168, by fax at 914-395-4636, or by e-mail at sao@concordia-ny.edu. Visit our website for more information about our upcoming events: www.concordia-ny.edu.

Concordia College is a member of the Concordia University System, Inc., a national network of ten colleges and universities of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.



2 **Securing the Future, Honoring the Past**
Kevin T. Cook



4 **Coach Neil Tarangoli: What a Racquet!**
John Bahr



18 **The Paradox of Public Education**
James Burkee

- 1 **President's Corner**
- 6 **Faith In Action**
- 7 **In Memoriam: President Emeritus, Dr. Albert E. Meyer**
- 10 **On Campus**
- 12 **AlumNotes**
- 14 **On the Move**
- 21 **From the Archives**

On the cover: Concordia College Board of Regents V.P., Dr. John M. Pietruski, Jr. and his wife Bobbie are pictured with Dawnelle Pariset, recipient of the Pietruski Fellowship in Biology. Dawnelle is a freshman from Yuma, Colorado. See our story, "Securing the Future, Honoring the Past" on page 2. Cover Photo by Vanessa Lenz

Kevin T. Cook

Securing the Future by Honoring the Past

A cursory glance at any college reveals the names of persons, families and organizations important to that institution. A walk around Concordia College's handsome campus recalls the names of its founders and friends who believe in Christian higher education. Scheele Memorial Library and Sommer Center for Worship and the Performing Arts honor donors whose significant financial gifts built those important edifices. Sieker, Bohm and Romoser Halls and Meyer Athletic Center recall learned professors and wise presidents. The elegant new gateways on White Plains Road bear the name of the L.E.S.—the Lutheran Education Society, which purchased the Bronxville property in 1908 and continues to support student financial aid and campus improvements. How appropriate to honor a donor with his/her name on a campus landmark!

But there are other resources not memorialized in brick and mortar. Scholarships and financial aid for deserving students are vital to the mission of the college. Concordia is thankful for its long list of named endowments—invested funds given in the name of the donor or the donor's loved ones that help meet students' annual costs.

It was to assist children of professional church servants in funding their Concordia educations that alumna Jean Kuechle Suttmeier '48, her husband Ted Suttmeier '47, her late sister Lenore Kuechle Cassens '57 and sister Marion Hardy established the Rev. Eugene E. and Esther B. Kuechle Memorial Scholarship Endowment in 1995. Their parents' memory is honored by the students who receive the Kuechle Scholarship each year. The donors annually add to the endowment (now valued in excess of \$37,000). Rhiannon Rieker, a pastor's daughter from Lyndhurst NJ and a top mathematics student, acknowledged the value of the scholarship in her

thank-you note to the Suttmeiers: "I realize that your family fund is making my education at Concordia possible, and I am very grateful."

The reality of making a Concordia education affordable for students led current



ANDREW BABAKAN, recipient of the E.K. Scherer Fellowship in International Management with faculty mentor, Dr Thomas Sluberski.



THE MEN OF ROMO SAY "THANKS!" Dan Bolles, left, residence counselor in Romoser Hall and some of his guys recently sent a larger version of this photo to Mrs. Elizabeth Fosbinder of Peapack NJ to express their appreciation of her support. A significant donation from Mrs. Fosbinder, who with her late husband Russell is a longtime patron of Concordia College, made extensive improvements—carpeting, furniture and a necessary oil tank conversion possible in the men's residence. The guys assured Mrs. Fosbinder that only for this picture did they ever put their feet up on the new lounge tables!

Friends of
Christian higher
education at
Concordia College
are invited to call
Kevin Cook,
director of
advancement, to
discuss investing
their resources in
the work of the
college. He may
be reached at
914-337-9300,
ext. 2167, or by
email at
kct@concordia-ny.edu.

Regent Jack Pietruski and his wife Bobbie to invest significant monies in several funds bearing their names. The former ceo of Sterling Drug saw firsthand how the costs of higher education affected Concordia students. "From my work on the board of regents, I knew that our gifts could directly impact students and their level of achievement. And that's a very rewarding achievement for us as well!"

Last year, Dr. and Mrs. Pietruski established the Pietruski Fellowship in Biology, a \$100,000 fund that, this year, provides major tuition assistance for Dawnelle Pariset, a freshman biology major from Yuma CO (see cover). The Concordia Fellows Program for academically-gifted students uses these "fellows funds" to attract and support top students in a variety of disciplines. Dr. Karen Bucher, biology/chemistry prof. and Dawnelle's faculty mentor says, "She is a gifted student, responsible, interested and hard-working. Guiding a student like her through her undergraduate training is a gift any teacher would treasure."

Such resources support every aspect of Concordia life. The family of the late William Wehmeyer funds a music scholarship in his honor; the Sommerhoff Soccer Fund helps cover the costs of that varsity sport in remembrance of a longtime friend of the college and soccer fan; Dr. Robert Meier, physics prof, honors his father's memory with the annual Harold Meier Prize in Mathematics.

Endowment funds are truly "the gift that keeps on giving." When you see an opportunity to honor your parents or spouse; when it's time to say "thanks" for the blessings Concordia brought to your life and career, a named fund whose earnings support your favorite Concordia College experience might be the perfect tax-deductible use of this year's bonus or inheritance. Your gift can honor loved ones, thank God for His bounty and serve your Concordia all at the same time. What greater good can there be!

"It's a Way to Say 'Thanks' for All Concordia's Done for Me."



That's not just a headline, it's a heartfelt sentiment that Dale Clark, Prep '63 and Junior College '69 and his wife Suzanne express each year. "I received a terrific education at Bronxville and can

say 'Thanks' because the Lord has really blessed us through Concordia College."

For the past twenty-five years, Dale has been president of The Bond Exchange of Charlotte NC, a surety bond agency founded by his father that generated \$4.5 million in premium sales in 2000. Suzanne works alongside him each day and joins Dale in the joy of their significant support for his alma mater. In fact, it was her expertise with their office technology that led to the couple's \$80,000 gift for the college's fiber-optic network in 1999.

That partnership in life and work was evident in mid-December when President George and Kevin Cook, director of advancement, visited Charlotte and lunched with the Clarks. "I was so taken with the way Dale and Suzanne worked side-by-side, complementing each other in conversation and in their work. The Lord really has blessed them in that way as well as in the strength of their faith and their commitment to sharing His gifts," said Dr. George.

The Clark's recent \$240,000 pledge to the "Dress For Success" front yard beautification project will be put to use this spring, with an extensive re-landscaping of Feth, Sieker and Bohm Halls. Old hedges and overgrown shrubs will be removed, handsome new blue-stone terraces added at each building's entrance and the old sidewalks replaced with paths of brick pavers.

"We're very happy about getting this project started for Concordia and really hope other alumni will support it. I know how fine an education Concordia College provides; I want people to see just how fine it is!" Thank you, Dale and Suzanne Clark, for modeling the joy of saying "Thanks!"



Dr. Viji George, president

Introducing, the Concordia Covenant

Being a small, Christian liberal arts college has its advantages. What we do very well at Concordia is provide an experience that leads to more than a degree: we transform lives. If we are serious about our claim, then we must find ways of articulating these ideas clearly. It is this objective that led to the Concordia Covenant. In this covenant, the college commits to three promises and expects the student in return to make three commitments.

As part of this covenant, Concordia College commits itself to:

- Provide each student at Concordia with experiences and opportunities which foster greater congruence between values and actions. It is the college's hope that students will have the opportunity not only to examine their faith and values but also to discover ways of putting faith into action.
- Create an environment through which a student's world view and perspective are broadened to reflect a world that is increasingly shedding its boundaries. It is the college's desire that each student develop a global perspective on human issues and concerns and thereby be able to understand and appreciate the rich diversity of God's creation.
- Equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in their chosen vocation. It is our goal to prepare our students for lives of self-fulfillment in service to Church and society.

As part of this covenant, the college expects the student to:

- Adopt a healthy sense of respect for self and others. We believe that it is essential that each student recognizes that she/he is a unique creation of God and thereby worthy of self respect. In addition, as a Christian academic community, we believe that this sense of respect needs to be extended to others who are also children of one Heavenly Father.
- Practice responsibility. We believe that a mark of a transformed person is the ability to accept responsibility for one's actions. In addition, we also believe that as members of a community of faith, we must respond to our brothers and sisters in need by accepting personal responsibility in making this world a better place for all of God's children.
- Develop a sense of reverence. We believe that in this age of cynicism and ambiguity, it is vital for us to have a sense of reverence for God and His magnificent creation. It is this sense of awe and wonder that provides life with its deepest and lasting meaning.

We share a copy of this covenant with every new student as well as his/her parents. Our hope is that this document serves to set the stage for further conversations on campus about who and what we are.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Viji George". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "V" and a long, sweeping underline.

John M. Bahr

Neil Tarangioli: What a Racquet!

About thirty years ago, C. Alan Meyers had a vision. He saw the potential for developing a superior tennis program at Concordia. He saw the construction of facilities that would be envied by everyone in the region. He saw fully-integrated community activities with programs for racquet players of all ages. He saw championship-caliber teams for men and women. Over the next few years, the facilities, the programs and the teams became a reality—and the rest, as they say, is history.

About twenty-five years ago, Coach Meyers had another vision. He met a young man, a student from another college looking for a part-time summer job at Concordia's youth tennis camp. He saw great potential in the young summer worker. At the time, few were seeing what Al saw. In a couple of years, Neil Tarangioli was a full-time assistant with the College Racquet Club, and a couple of years later, he became the college's head coach for men's tennis.

No one could foresee the tragedy that would strike on December 13, 1983, when Al and Justine Meyers were killed in a plane crash. What Al had seen in young Neil Tarangioli was suddenly challenged to blossom more quickly. It didn't take long. Neil assumed leadership as Director of Tennis in 1985, and the "business" of moving vision to reality has continued steadily and admirably.

The "house that Al built" (literally), now named Meyers Racquet Center, continues to be one of the premier facilities in the area. The programs for young and old continue to be heavily subscribed and create much good will in the community. And then there's the men's tennis team. Coach Meyers' vision was ambitious, but one may wonder if even he could have predicted the accomplishments that are now matters of record and sometimes taken for granted.

Of course, the team is expected to win the conference again this year—as they have each of the past three years and eleven times under Coach Tarangioli's guidance. Of course, the team will be ranked among the top ten in the region again—as they have been in each of the past five years. Of course, individual players and doubles teams will be ranked among the best in the region and some even nationally, as has been the case quite regularly over the

years. In fact, over Neil's twenty years as head coach, he cites only two non-winning seasons. Neil has accumulated over 250 career wins as coach, and three times he has been named Conference Coach of the Year for the NYCAC. Last year, Neil garnered that honor also for the ITA—East Region. Known for his normally exuberant personality, Neil is somewhat abashed by the attention, saying "Awards don't mean much to me. They come and go."

When speaking of his teams and players, restraint fades. Neil's tales of the Clipper Armada venturing forth into battle (his terms) signal the pride he harbors. The players have come from all over the world—Brazil, Canada, India, Japan, Romania, Spain, Taiwan, Zambia. Most of them learn about Concordia through word-of-mouth, mostly from other players. No doubt they hear about successes on the courts and probably also about what happens off the courts.

Coach Tarangioli identifies one of his biggest challenges as getting these highly competitive individual athletes to work together as a team, but when asked about his most satisfying moments as a coach, he is quick to say "seeing these guys graduate." Over 90% have over the last decade. "Student comes first in student-athlete" is a common echo heard from Coach Tarangioli, and that is clearly reflected also in his "Coach's Goals," which he gives to each player each season. Those goals include winning the conference and making it to the NCAA national tournament, of course. Just as prominent are the goals of seeing a number of guys on "Dean's List" and at least one team member as Academic All-American and having the highest grade point average of any other varsity team. The goals also challenge each player to "make a life-long friend" and finish the season able to say "Coach is okay." Needless to say, they do.

Almost thirty years ago, Coach Meyers saw this writer fooling around with a tennis racquet and thought perhaps there was some talent to develop. C. Alan Meyers wasn't always right. But about Neil Tarangioli, clearly he was.

Top of the Heap!

These days, people logging onto college websites at Princeton, NYU, Rutgers, George Mason and Penn State find themselves reading about Concordia College in Bronxville NY. Why? The headlines are about men's volleyball competition and, most often, about how their teams were defeated by the Concordia Clippers. Although the college is a Division II member of the NCAA for all sports, in men's volleyball, Divisions I and II compete for the same national championship. That means the best teams schedule the best teams to get there. This year's schedule includes the list above along with nationally ranked UCLA, BYU, UC-Irvine, Ball State, Loyola—Chicago, and Lewis University. Last year, the Clippers finished second to rival Penn State in the Eastern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association (EIVA), one victory away from reaching the NCAA Final Four. This year's team earned early recognition as one of only two Division II teams ranked among the nation's best, moving to #13 in the USA Today/AVCA Division I & II Coaches Top 15 Poll. The Top 15 includes other prestigious institutions such as USC, Stanford, Pepperdine, Ohio State and, of course, rival Penn State. Concordia became the first nationally ranked team to earn ten victories this year. Check out the Clippers' road to the Final Four on the Clipper Athletics home page at www.concordia-ny.edu.

John Bahr, class of '75, is Dean of Students at Concordia College. For the record, he did receive a varsity letter in tennis, "just barely," (his words) in 1974.

Megan Cassano was recently named New York State Social Work Student of the Year—the second year in a row that a Concordia student has earned this distinction. She is a senior president of Alpha Sigma Chi, a women's service club; co-president of the Social Work Club and a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Greenwich CT.

Senior Project *Megan Cassano*

Weeks without close, human contact, limited personal power and resources, the feeling of being worthless and rejected—these are “normal” for too many of our society’s senior citizens. Two years ago I began to research the elderly to find out why they have become “the forgotten population.” My research evolved into a project based on two theories—that the mind and body have a direct and very intentional correlation and that human contact is essential for a healthy life. My background as a social work major led me to Professor Joan Roper Adams who guided me through an independent study project that would last for the next year and a half.

I designed the project to be intergenerational—four Concordia students, four residents of the Wartburg Adult Care Community in Mt. Vernon and four elementary school children participated. The Concordia students met with me and visited a resident at the Wartburg every week. The elementary school children met with me every other week to make crafts for the residents and learn about stereotypes; the goal was to instill respect for seniors that would help the seniors develop a more positive self-image, resulting in improved health. Wartburg administrators selected the seniors based

on the amount of human contact they normally received (next to none). At the start of the program, the seniors took a survey that assessed their feelings about their own lives.

The program went well. Some of the Concordia students developed a real bond with the person they visited. One of the students even took a resident home for Thanksgiving so he would not have to be alone. When the seniors were given the same survey at the end of the semester, many of their responses changed, for example, from “have an unfulfilling life” to “have a contented life.” The concept that human friendship can enhance one’s life proved to be true.

I have learned much from this experience. I have found that, with people like Professor Adams and institutions like Concordia that encourage creative thought, it’s possible for a student to advocate for change. It can be physically, emotionally and psychologically devastating to have so much to say and feel as though no one cares. Without human connection, depression and isolation are almost inevitable. Without anyone to tend to emotional needs, perpetual “numbness” sets in. A smile can do wonders. A visit can turn a whole day around for someone who planned on a lifetime of silence.

As a result of this project, I have a new theory: The life of a senior citizen can be tremendously improved by anyone who makes an attempt to be part of it. They have so much to share; all we have to do is listen.





In Memoriam: *The Rev. Dr. Albert E. Meyer, Fifth President of Our Concordia.*

“. . . Whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely . . . think about such things.” That exhortation from St. Paul’s letter to the Philippians, chapter 4, verse 8, is familiar to the generations of Concordia alumni who studied Christian doctrine under the stern and loving gaze of Dr. Albert E. Meyer, president from 1950 to 1971 and professor of theology during much of that time. As the messages of condolence reached his children and family following his death on December 13, 2000, at the age of 95, that verse might seem to have been his personal motto as well.

Born to a pastor and his wife in 1905 in Arapahoe NE, Dr. Meyer attended St. John’s Lutheran Academy and College in Winfield KS and graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in 1930. He pastored three mission stations in Oklahoma and Redeemer Lutheran Church in Cushing before being called as professor of German at Concordia in 1938. His academic, financial and diplomatic skills served the college well during his term as acting president during World War II, and helped carry Concordia into the explosive growth in higher education during the post-war years. His vision and dedication steered Concordia’s distinguished prep school and junior college with a wise and steady hand. President *Emeritus* Dr. Ralph

Schultz recalled Dr. Meyer as “the guiding light of our move to a four-year institution” and credited him with tireless efforts on the college’s behalf. A grateful institution named the athletic complex in his honor and in 1977 presented him with the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters and emeritus status.

He served as vice-chairman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Commission on Theology and Church Relations from 1962 to ‘71. His beloved wife, Leona, whom he credited as “my full partner” during his presidency, died in 1983. At that time, Dr. Meyer and their three children: Dorothy Marcek, class of 1952, Margaret Jungkuntz ’55, and James, established a campus beautification fund in her memory. The family has now added Dr. Meyer’s name to the fund, which will continue to contribute flowering plants and other improvements to the campus he served so well for so long, and invites donations in his memory.

President Viji George had the opportunity to meet Dr. Meyer last August at the Jungkuntz home and recalled the visit: “I was amazed at Dr. Meyer’s sharp memory and grasp of contemporary issues facing our Concordia. What a pleasure to meet him and receive his words of advice and encouragement.”

Dr. Meyer was buried from Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church in Elm Grove WI on December 19.

Ken Fick
is director
of financial aid
at Concordia
College and
specializes in
making a painful
process less so.
Reach him at
financialaid
@concordia-
ny.edu or by
phone at 800-
YES-COLlege.



david dobiak

Kenneth T. Fick

Financial First Aid

In higher education financial assistance, there is only one guarantee: you will receive no aid if you do not apply! Once you get beyond that simple rule, the financial aid process can be very confusing. The mission of the Financial Aid Office at Concordia College is to make that process less difficult for students and their parents. This article is intended to help clear up some of the mysteries. If you do not have a child currently thinking about college, I encourage you to cut this out and send it to friends or family members who do. You can be sure they'll thank you!

To begin with, you will find that financial aid administrators tend to speak in acronyms. Here are a few definitions. The FAFSA is the most common form in the financial aid kingdom. It is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. FAFSA results are referred to as either the SAR (Student Aid Report), the total form, or as the EFC (Expected Family Contribution), the most important number. The EFC is just that—by calculation, the amount your family can afford to contribute to college costs.

Do not let the name of the federal application mislead you, however. It is used for much more than just federal student aid eligibility. Every college in the United States requires students who wish to receive financial assistance to file the FAFSA by a particular deadline (ours happens to be March 31.) The form asks for both student and parent information that will determine eligibility for federal as well as institutional aid. Questions cover income, tax payments, assets, family size and the number of family members in college so that the federally mandated formula can determine what your EFC is.

There are several common errors that delay the aid process. The most common is

forgetting to sign the form before submitting it. If you file the FAFSA online (at www.fafsa.ed.gov), remember to print out the signature page for separate submission via snail mail. Another error that can create difficulties is listing parent income in the student's section or vice-versa. Be sure to double check all the data before sending the FAFSA to the processing center. Most important, make sure the student's name, social security number and date of birth are legible. These identifiers let the federal processing center check to see if there is any previous aid history which can impact eligibility.

The resultant EFC helps the financial aid administrator determine the types and amounts of aid a student can receive. By subtracting the EFC from the cost of attendance, the aid administrator finds your demonstrated need. It is our job to help meet that need from a variety of sources. These include scholarships, grants, loans and work study. Yes, loans and work are considered financial aid. Scholarships and grants are considered gift aid; that is, the student does not need to pay them back.

Scholarships recognize a special talent (academic, athletic, music, etc.) a student brings to the college. Grants are need-based and can come from a variety of sources, including Concordia and the federal and state governments. For the 2000-01 academic year, Concordia's financial aid office awarded more than \$2.8 million in scholarships and grants.

Loans generally are provided through the Federal Family Education Loan Program. The most common loan used at Concordia is the subsidized Federal Stafford Loan. This loan is used to meet need, so the government actually pays the interest while the student is enrolled at least halftime. The unsubsidized Federal

Stafford Loan is the second most common. It can be used by a student who either has no demonstrated need (EFC was greater than the cost of attendance) or whose need has been met with other aid sources. The student is responsible for the interest on this loan while in school; however, payments can still be deferred and the interest capitalized when the loan goes into repayment. For either Stafford loan, the repayment period begins six months after the student leaves Concordia or drops below halftime status. A statistic that I am very proud of is that, on average, Concordia's students graduate with less debt than do their counterparts at state colleges. We are able to achieve this because of the generous giving of alumni, congregations and other friends of the college.

Work study helps students with immediate expenses. Typically, students work at campus jobs between seven and fifteen hours each week. Wages are paid directly to the student and can be used to pay those indirect education expenses, like the phone bill.

Once our office has determined your eligibility, we prepare a financial aid award letter that lists the various sources and amounts of aid. Over ninety-two percent of our students received some type of aid this year. The average assistance was over \$12,000. All students are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress in order to be eligible for aid in subsequent terms. Additionally, you must apply for aid every year.

Concordia College provides an excellent education for its students. The Financial Aid Office prides itself on the help that we extend to families and to making the benefits of higher education affordable. Feel free to contact the office for additional information or help in making your way through the financial aid maze.

Helpful websites:

www.concordia-ny.edu

www.fafsa.ed.gov

www.finaid.org

www.fastweb.com

www.mapping-your-future.org



William P. Kupper, Jr., Richard Engebrecht and President Viji George

Winter Grads Mean *Business (Week)*

Forty-three graduates of the Concordia College class of '00 were honored at December's winter commencement, more than half receiving their degrees through Concordia's Accelerated Executive Education Degree Program (AEP).

William P. Kupper, Jr., president and publisher of *Business Week* Group and alumnus of Concordia Prep, class of '63, delivered the commencement address. "One of the virtues of Concordia is that it balances a quality education with a healthy dose of Christian values—teaching responsibility, respect, integrity and the importance of being a good citizen. All these lessons have helped me throughout my business career," said Kupper. President and publisher of *Business Week* since last year, he can point with pride to a distinguished career in advertising and communications. At *Business Week*, Mr. Kupper is responsible for the continued expansion of the franchise and for worldwide advertising sales for the magazine's North American and international editions, as well as for sales development and direct sales support including research and account services.

Dr. Richard H. Engebrecht received Concordia College's most cherished award, the Servant of Christ medallion. It was presented by President Viji George in recognition of his long career in Christian education and the energy and creativity he has brought to that career. Currently serving as minister of outreach and discipleship at the Church of Our Saviour Lutheran, Manhasset NY, Dr. Engebrecht began teaching at Grace Lutheran School

on Valentine Avenue in the Bronx in 1948. During Concordia's formative years as a four-year college in the early 1970s, Dr. Engebrecht aided and encouraged the administration and faculty in developing the college's premier academic major, elementary education. For the past ten years he has served as area representative for Wheat Ridge Ministries.

Spreading the Good News

In His Name, a ministry team of Concordia students, gathers each week in rehearsal and prayer. Their mission is to bring the Word of God and the power of His Spirit to people through contemporary music and Scripture-based drama. The team visits churches in the tri-state area, participating in worship services and speaking about Concordia College and their own personal relationships with God. The team also ministers to youth groups and at youth gatherings, bringing the message of salvation and redemption to teens and youngsters.

This year, In His Name participated in worship services at Bethany Lutheran Church, West Hartford CT; Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Trumbull CT; and Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Mahwah NJ. They also ministered at a small youth gathering at Emanuel Lutheran Church in Patchogue NY. The team facilitated Bible study, led activities, sang songs and performed skits with and for the youth.

In His Name also leads campus chapel services. At a service devoted to the observance of World AIDS Day, members of the team shared their experiences with people suffering from AIDS; in fact, one of the newest members, Heather Dinneen, is raising money and applying for grants to refurbish a library at an orphanage in Ghana, West Africa. Heather established the Ghana Fund in 1999, and monies raised pay school tuition and other expenses for the children of the Christ Faith Foster Home, half of whom are afflicted with AIDS and other illnesses.

Proud of their faith and faithful in their mission, the members of In His Name dedicate themselves to bringing the Good News to all who will hear. Interested? Contact Katie Luekens, director, at 914-337-9300, ext. 2123, or by email: kl@concordia-ny.edu.



LuHi, New York's #25, Melanie Hall and #24, Abbi Simpson take a break off the court with Concordia College coaches Kathy Laoutaris and Kris Zeiter.

Nothin' but Net at Concordia

The Meyer Athletic Center was the site of a weekend of basketball for three Lutheran high schools. The girls' junior varsity and varsity teams from Baltimore Lutheran, Long Island Lutheran (Brookville NY) and Martin Luther High School (Queens NY) participated in a four-game event. On Friday evening, January 26, Baltimore Lutheran played Long Island Lutheran and on Saturday, January 27, Martin Luther played Baltimore Lutheran. All four games were very spirited with Baltimore's J.V. defeating Long Island Lutheran but losing to a strong Martin Luther J.V. The varsity team from Baltimore lost to the Long Island Lutheran girls and defeated the team from Martin Luther.

For many years Concordia was the host to a Lutheran high school basketball tournament. Due to scheduling conflicts this event was put on hold for a few years. "By bringing these teams back to Concordia, we hope the enthusiasm will grow for resurrecting this exciting tournament," said Ivan Marquez, Concordia's athletic director. He adds, "This tournament serves many purposes. It gives Concordia the opportunity to bring potential students and athletes from Lutheran high schools to the campus. It also serves as a venue for the Lutheran high schools to compete against each other and enjoy fellowship between players."



Confirmands Retreat: Living the Faith: 2

"Do it twice and it's a tradition!" And so, a tradition is born on the campus of Concordia College—New York with the second annual Confirmands Retreat, June 1-2, 2001. Concordia will again host more than 100 confirmands from churches throughout the tri-district area for a fun-filled retreat. "Living the Faith As a Spirit-filled Body" is this year's theme based on Ephesians 4:1-6. Confirmands from area churches will come together to explore this passage from Holy Scripture through small group discussion, large group activities and inspiring Bible studies. Local leaders, including staff from Camp SonRise, will lead the retreat. Pastors, confirmation leaders and other interested individuals may contact Rev. Deric Taylor, campus chaplain, at 914-337-9300, ext. 2197, or dat@concordia-ny.edu for more information.

forgetting to sign the form before submitting it. If you file the FAFSA online (at www.fafsa.ed.gov), remember to print out the signature page for separate submission via snail mail. Another error that can create difficulties is listing parent income in the student's section or vice-versa. Be sure to double check all the data before sending the FAFSA to the processing center. Most important, make sure the student's name, social security number and date of birth are legible. These identifiers let the federal processing center check to see if there is any previous aid history which can impact eligibility.

The resultant EFC helps the financial aid administrator determine the types and amounts of aid a student can receive. By subtracting the EFC from the cost of attendance, the aid administrator finds your demonstrated need. It is our job to help meet that need from a variety of sources. These include scholarships, grants, loans and work study. Yes, loans and work are considered financial aid. Scholarships and grants are considered gift aid; that is, the student does not need to pay them back.

Scholarships recognize a special talent (academic, athletic, music, etc.) a student brings to the college. Grants are need-based and can come from a variety of sources, including Concordia and the federal and state governments. For the 2000-01 academic year, Concordia's financial aid office awarded more than \$2.8 million in scholarships and grants.

Loans generally are provided through the Federal Family Education Loan Program. The most common loan used at Concordia is the subsidized Federal Stafford Loan. This loan is used to meet need, so the government actually pays the interest while the student is enrolled at least halftime. The unsubsidized Federal

Stafford Loan is the second most common. It can be used by a student who either has no demonstrated need (EFC was greater than the cost of attendance) or whose need has been met with other aid sources. The student is responsible for the interest on this loan while in school; however, payments can still be deferred and the interest capitalized when the loan goes into repayment. For either Stafford loan, the repayment period begins six months after the student leaves Concordia or drops below halftime status. A statistic that I am very proud of is that, on average, Concordia's students graduate with less debt than do their counterparts at state colleges. We are able to achieve this because of the generous giving of alumni, congregations and other friends of the college.

Work study helps students with immediate expenses. Typically, students work at campus jobs between seven and fifteen hours each week. Wages are paid directly to the student and can be used to pay those indirect education expenses, like the phone bill.

Once our office has determined your eligibility, we prepare a financial aid award letter that lists the various sources and amounts of aid. Over ninety-two percent of our students received some type of aid this year. The average assistance was over \$12,000. All students are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress in order to be eligible for aid in subsequent terms. Additionally, you must apply for aid every year.

Concordia College provides an excellent education for its students. The Financial Aid Office prides itself on the help that we extend to families and to making the benefits of higher education affordable. Feel free to contact the office for additional information or help in making your way through the financial aid maze.

Helpful websites:

www.concordia-ny.edu

www.fafsa.ed.gov

www.finaid.org

www.fastweb.com

www.mapping-your-future.org

Prep '34

ExPress Publishing in February 2000 released *Joyful Noises*, the memoirs of JOHN F. WAHL. John has served as pastor, professor and hospital and prison chaplain. Now 88 and retired, he took a look back at interesting and important things that have happened along the way! John resides in Santa Cruz CA.

Prep '46

REV. PETER SCHRODER writes, "Concordia was the focal point of my life." He and his wife Ellen Stahlberg, a professor at Concordia during the late 40s, reside in Littleton CO. They look back fondly as they remember their wedding 50 years ago: June 23, 1951 at Village Lutheran Church.

1948

REV. LUTHER ENGELBRECHT was presented an award for his "joy in ministry" by the theology faculty at Concordia University, Portland. This award is given out yearly to a pastor, chaplain or missionary from the greater Northwest who has exhibited "Christian character in the midst of adversity, Christian commitment through years of service and Christian creativity in carrying out Christ's mission."

1954

VIVIAN EGLOFF TOWERS and husband Doug of Yonkers NY celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary in October and enjoy traveling and living near daughter KAREN TOWERS '87 MCLAUGHLIN and her two daughters. Vivian keeps active on the Concordia Guild Board.

1955

REV. ROBERT DUCHOW writes that he is town historian of Westerlo NY and the fifth generation owner of his home and store. He also is descended from the same Ward family as the builders of Concordia's Ward House; the family includes Aaron Burr among its members.

Prep '56

Congratulations to ALAN GEUDER on the outpouring of gratitude and affection offered him at his retirement as principal and teacher of Immanuel Lutheran School, Albuquerque, April 9. More than 700

church and school members, former students and others honored him at a party held at the Albuquerque Convention Center. Geuder has been a Lutheran teacher since 1961 and at Immanuel since 1971. He and his wife Helen have two children.

1968

DOTTIE EASTMAN SIMONIDES has returned to the east coast and is living in her hometown of Madison CT. Her husband Gary is a software developer, and she enjoys work as parish secretary for the Lutheran Church of Madison.

1970

CHARMAYNE FELZY ZIEZIULA and her husband David celebrated their 30th anniversary in August. Charmayne is a lecturer in the Exceptional Education Department at Buffalo State College. Their son Nathan was married last spring at Camp Pioneer's Chapel in the Woods, as were his parents and sister before him. Their daughter Noel teaches kindergarten at Holy Cross Lutheran School in Miami; daughter Naomi is a graduate of Palm Beach Atlantic College; their son Nicholas is a high school senior.

1975

DAVID and GAIL YELOUSHAN KANE write about what is happening with their family. Dave has recently taken a position as a middle school counselor at John Marshall High School in Rochester NY. Gail continues work as a rental manager at the largest apartment complex on the eastern seaboard. They have two sons, Timothy and Jonathan, both in college and living at home. David and Gail give thanks as they recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary!

1976

Congratulations to CHRISTOPHER M. LINDEMANN who has completed his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the fielding Institute, Santa Barbara CA and is now working as a psychologist at the Center for Child & Family Services in Hampton VA. Chris lives in Newport News VA with his wife Jeanne and two children: Ben, 10, and Anne Marie, 7.

During a recent trip to London, the Cook family visited the famed Tower of London. KEVIN and DEBBIE SCHULTZ '77 COOK report delight in seeing Concordia's motto *Nisi Dominus Frustra*, "Without God, Nothing," painted above the entrance to the Tower compound doctor's home. What a universal truth—without God, we have and are nothing! They traveled with daughters, Amy, 19, and Jennifer, 17, to visit son Matthew, 21, who in the fall semester studied in London.

1980

STEPHEN and ELLEN FRED GUALKE joyfully announce the birth of son Nathanael Fred Gaulke on November 22. Nathanael was born again on December 27, baptized into the family by REV. VICTOR BELTON '82. Nathanael's godparents are Megan Erickson, REV. WILLIAM E. BAUM '81 and REV. BROOKE SWERTFAGER '82. Brother Benjamin, 15, and sister Mary, 10, welcomed Nathanael home.

Greetings come from EILEEN QUINTERN GAWEL. Eileen, married in April 1996 to Ronald T. Gawel of Niagara Falls, works for the Lutheran Service Society, in residential services, as a medical liaison in group homes for the developmentally disabled.

RENEE RICKEL SCHORRE of Houston wrote to DR. WALLY BORGEN '66 about her enjoyment in working for the El Paso Energy Corporation for the last 15 years.

1981

CHARLES GAMBLE, president of the Lutheran Church of Nassau, is happy to report that they have a new pastor, a local gentleman, Rev. Sam Boddle, trained at the seminary in St. Louis. This has been good for the church, and attendance is up by 20%. Charles invites all visitors to Nassau to attend services at the church. Email him for directions: bddag@bahamas.net.bs.

For 14 years, CHUCK MANCUSO has been athletic director at the College of Mt. St. Vincent, also serving as head men's basketball coach. Last season he won his

300th career game. Chuck was honored with a plaque from the National Association of Basketball Coaches. Congratulations!

1983

Word came from DEN COLLINS that he is busy working in the music department at Hofstra University. In free time he sings in his church choir and does substitute organ work. Recently, Den was elected to the board of trustees of the Nassau County Historical Society.

1985

Having received her Masters in Education from Piedmont College GA, EDITH ADAMS WALTON looks forward to teaching in the Georgia Public School System. She is currently working as a para-pro with special needs children. Her husband, REV. GREG WALTON '83, is senior pastor at Faith Lutheran Church and School, one of the largest LCMS congregations in the Atlanta area. Greg also serves on the Florida-Georgia District board of directors.

1987

A note from GLEN SCOTT tells us that he is employed by Advanstar Communication in Milford CT as sales director. Look him up when you are in the area.



1991

Greetings come to us from SANDRA PARTLOW TURNER and her husband David. They were blessed with a third child, Seth, born March 11, 2000, and placed in their arms April 7 through adoption. Seth joins brother Sam, 3, and sister Shannon, 6, who "smother" him with attention.



On October 29, BRIAN K. SMITH '91 was installed as associate pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, Penfield NY. In the picture above, CHRISTINE INDORF FLAMMANN '78; REV. WILLIAM H. FLAMMANN '78, senior pastor at Faith; and REV. ALBERT ZOLLER, Prep '57 and JC '59, LCMS Eastern District VP and pastor of St. Paul, Hilton NY, pose with Brian and his wife JENNA OLBERMANN SMITH '90.

1992

JENNIFER DE VANTIER and JOHN PINTO '90 announce the birth of their daughter Chloe Ann November 22, 2000, in Bronxville. Congratulations!



1993

AMY HELGESON LAGER writes that she moved to Colorado Springs in August '98 where she met Martin Lager, a design engineer for MCIWorldcom. They were married last June. KERI PARADIS '94 was a bridesmaid and Alexander Kroll Hance, son of PAULA and PETE HANCE '94, was ringbearer. They are in the process of buying their first home and Amy continues to teach 3rd grade in Harrison School District 2.

1995

HEATHER SADLO PALKEWICK writes that she graduated magna cum

laude with a Master of Science in Music Education from Western Connecticut State University in August 2000. Congratulations!

1996

News from the North Dakota District-LCMS: ALAN ROBERT KORNACKI JR. was installed as pastor in the dual parish of St. Paul, Beach, and St. Peter, Belfield, on July 23, 2000.

1997

KATHERINE SANDHOP writes she is currently a head teacher at the Millwood Learning Center in Millwood NY. This is a special school run by the Deveraux Foundation for autistic children. Kate is finding this a challenging but truly rewarding experience.



2000

Congratulations to KEVIN and JANET LYNNE LEMOIGNE COONS on their marriage August 5 at Village Lutheran Church, Bronxville. REV. DERIC TALYOR '87 officiated. Groomsmen included STEVE ROMANO '99, MIKE COONS '97, DAVID PAYNE and GREG WOLBERT '98. Bridesmaids included DANA AMBROSINI '00 and LARRA WESSLER '00. Kevin and Janet are living in Baltimore. Kevin is a social studies teacher at Baltimore Lutheran School in Towson. Janet teaches third grade at St. James Lutheran Elementary School in Baltimore.

We want to hear from you! Write to us at 171 White Plains Rd., Bronxville NY 10708; email: alumni@concordia-ny.edu; or post your own alumnote on line at www.concordia-ny.edu.

Serdar Arat, associate professor of art and curator of the Concordia Gallery, presented his third one-man show in Manhattan at the Gallery at Marmara September 14–November 2. His work was also featured in a group show in Chicago, at Gallery 1756, October 15–December 2. A painting by Professor Arat was recently acquired by the Pfizer Corporation for the Pfizer Educational Center in Westchester. The collection was recently reviewed by *The New York Times*.

Dr. Wally Borgen, professor of business, presented “Using Humor Effectively in the Workplace” in October at the New York State Conference of the American Council on Education/National Network of Women Leaders in Higher Education. She also served as an evaluator for a Middle States Accreditation Team this month in Philadelphia.

Dr. Jane R. Buerger, chair of the division of education and behavioral sciences, led a faculty development workshop for the teachers at Trinity Lutheran School, Hicksville NY. Her topic was “Problem Solving and Communication in Mathematics.”

Joy Elwell, campus nurse practitioner, had citations published in the August and September 2000 issues of *Consultant: Consultations in Primary Care* entitled “Reducing Pelvic Exam Anxiety” and “Alleviating Injection Pain.”

Sherry Fraser, professor of social work, chaired the 33rd Annual Conference of the New York State Social Work Education Association held in Syracuse November 16–17. Professor Fraser is president of the association. The conference theme this year was “The

Images of Social Workers: Showcasing the Social Work Profession.”

Kathryn Galchutt, instructor of history, presented a paper entitled “A Beam of Light: The Controversy Surrounding Andrew Schulze’s My Neighbor of Another Color” at the Lutheran Historical Conference held in October in Milwaukee.

Yvonne K. Gatz, associate professor and director of the social work program, attended the Baccalaureate Program Directors Conference of the Council on Social Work Education in October in Destin FL. She also represented the program at the New York State Social Work Education Association’s annual meeting in Syracuse in November. Accompanying her were eight of our Concordia seniors majoring in social work. Professor Gatz serves as treasurer of the association.

Rev. Dr. Ronald W. Jones, director of church relations, is the author of “The Illusion of Diversity, The Army Chaplaincy,” a reflection on ministry to students and on the ministry of administration. The article appeared in the Winter–Spring 2000 issue of *Specialized Ministries: An Essential Piece*.

Katie Luekens of the dean of students office was invited to sing at the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) convention, held at the New Yorker Hotel in Manhattan in January. Her performance was part of a workshop entitled “Musical Theatre and the Belt Voice II.”

Dr. Mandana Nakhai, associate professor of English and writing, presented “Women in Iran Today: Submission and Resistance,” a discussion of the challenges Iranian women confront in order to effect

social change for women in the Islamic Republic of Iran, at Sarah Lawrence College in October and at Scarsdale Congregational Church in February.

Dr. Ralph Peters, associate professor of psychology, presented “Celtic Christianity” (aka How the Irish Saved Civilization) in January at Christ Church in Bronxville and in March to the Senior Citizens of Bronxville at the Reformed Church. He also presented “Media and the Mind” at St. John’s, Sayville NY.

Ralph C. Schultz was honored with the prestigious Wittenberg Award of the Luther Institute, a public-policy group in Washington D.C. in October. Previous recipients include Betty Duda, former chair of Concordia’s Board of Regents, who presented the bronze sculpture to Schultz, and Dr. Robert Cade, this year’s commencement speaker.

Rev. Dr. Thomas Sluberski, professor of English and humanities, presented a series of three lectures “Can You See the Film Instead of Reading the Book?” for the Bronxville Adult School during September and October. The lectures focused on nine of the longest, most difficult novels in literature including *Great Expectations*, *Barry Lyndon*, *Les Miserables* and *War and Peace*.

Dr. Sluberski also presented a three-day series for pastors and their spouses at the Eastern Region of the English District in Warminster PA: “101 Uses of Missionary Service: the First LCMS Missionary to Russia,” “Satan and Cinema: the Devil, Lucifer and the Like on TV and in Film” and “Spirituality and Film: Usable in Preaching, Teaching and Counseling.”



Still Peppy After All These Years

Arthur Doring



PEPPY PEOPLE INCLUDED: Ed Bartell, Christine Liebold '87 Bartell, Linda Seeger '85 Schenkel, Kristin Palmese '89 Gaba, Ellen Holsan '86 Jockwer with Rebecca Lynn and John Jockwer '84.



THEY CAME OUT TO PLAY: Back row: Dan Bolles '96, Brian Scally '86, Dave Doring '92, Art Doring '53, Christine Kane '98 and Liz Blanchard '99. Front row: Rick Plateroti '86, Pat Dowd '87, John DiMou '85 and Steve Romano '99

Most alumni/ae have a particular event or occasion that they show up for regularly. For a group of friends from the '85-'95 era, Pep Night is that annual "must." (Alum from a number of other years attend as well; the author, for one!) Each winter the Office of Alumni/ae Relations sponsors a Saturday afternoon basketball game for former "stars" and "wanna-bes," and the fans show up to cheer them on to victory! This year's party in January was no different.

The highlight of the Alum/Student game came in the closing seconds of the first half. Dave Doring '92 took an inbounds pass near the baseline and fired a shot the full length of the court, banking in the longest three-pointer of the day. In the second half, the student players were unable to overcome the long-range shooting by alums.

The second game, wherein alumni divided into the "Blue" and "White" teams, was a mix of fine playing and frenzied fun. All legs held out for the closely contested game—let's just say the exact score was inconsequential! The fun and fellowship continued with a great meal in Schoenfeld Campus Center.

Next year we hope to see *you* on the court or cheering on the team from the stands!

The Artwork on the Wall



The Holy Trinity, Dr. Fred Schumacher, 1998

A Journey in Mind and Spirit

What are the most spiritual locations on Concordia's campus? The chapel in the Sommer Center? The classrooms where religion courses are taught and religious topics are discussed? Perhaps, on some very special occasions, this list could also include the Concordia Gallery inside the Scheele Memorial Library.

Two recent exhibits in the art gallery have expanded the spiritual horizons of the campus and of the wider community. From December to the middle of January, the exhibit *Windows into the Eternal: Tradition of Icons* graced the walls of the gallery. The early spring exhibit is entitled *Beauty of the Line: Later Ottoman and Turkish Calligraphy*. Although they come from the same region of the world, the two artistic presentations are markedly different, yet each has a spiritual quality that invites reflection and introspection as well.

Christian icons are a celebration of human form at its most divine, and of divine form at its most human. In some icons, the presentation of the image is such that an understanding of the title is necessary to determine whether the image is of a saint or of the God whom the saint served. One of the most stunning icons in the winter exhibit was *The Holy Trinity*. In this icon presentation, the three Persons of the Holy Trinity are depicted by the icon writer as three very distinct persons. There is a flowing sense of individuality in each portrayal, set within the unity of the whole iconographic presentation. In a way, the icon embodies the Christian doctrine, set forth in a beautiful and basic artistic style.

Any visitor to the gallery during *Windows into the Eternal* could not help but be invited into a disciplined and devoted branch of Christian artistry. Just to look at an icon is a spiritual event on some level. But for many people, especially believers from the orthodox tradition, it is much more than that. Sharing that "much more" of spirituality was a Christmastime gift of the Concordia Gallery.

The coming of spring has brought another artistic gift, one which also has spiritual dynamics. In the case of *Beauty*

of the Line, spirituality is embodied in the art of ornamental writing in the tradition of Islamic calligraphy. In contrast with the previous gallery exhibit, there is not human form of any sort represented in the works displayed. Islamic art celebrates graphic line rather than human form. It finds beauty in the simplicity of a word, or perhaps a few words creatively arranged to highlight their form and underscore their content. The choice of topics for these presentations is traditionally spiritual, often including verses from the Qur'an, the sacred book of Islam. The aesthetic and spiritual nature of the works draws the admiration of the gallery visitors, who may or may not be able to read the language they are written in.

In addition to the aesthetic merit of the exhibits, their accompanying slide lectures have allowed members of the Concordia community to further their knowledge of these artworks and their respective religious traditions. Also, many of the students who attend these lectures are members of a class entitled "Art in Gallery." In this course, students learn about how a gallery is designed and operated as they explore different styles of art. These students become well-acquainted with the pieces on display, even aiding in the installation and maintenance of the gallery exhibits. The familiarity that these students gain with the exhibits allows them an even deeper recognition of both the artistic and spiritual aspects of the specific works.

Each of the presentations in the Concordia Gallery is a labor of love which brings together special works of art and an appreciative audience. The icon exhibit *Windows into the Eternal* was assembled and curated by the Rev. Dr. Fred Schumacher, a friend of the college and pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, White Plains NY. It included a number of icons he crafted personally and others that he and his wife collected from various locales. His spiritual association with these writings, as they are called, was eminently evident. The exhibit was recognized with an extensive, illustrated article in the December 31 issue of *The New York Times*. The springtime exhibit, *Beauty of the Line*, has been sponsored by the New York State Council for the Humanities, the Institute of Turkish Studies in Washington D.C., and Friends of the Concordia Gallery. These two elegant exhibits have not only added beauty to a corner of Concordia, they have made the Concordia Gallery into one of the most spiritual places on campus.

Jessica Wismar, class of '01, is an English major currently interning in the office of Marketing & Public Relations. She is an Honors student who looks forward to pursuing a career in writing.

Are they the same, those who know, and those who know not? dated 1385 A.H./1967 A.D. by Hamid Aytac (1891-1982)

Ali, Fatma, dated 1257 A.H./1879 A.D. by Selma Hanım (1857-1895)

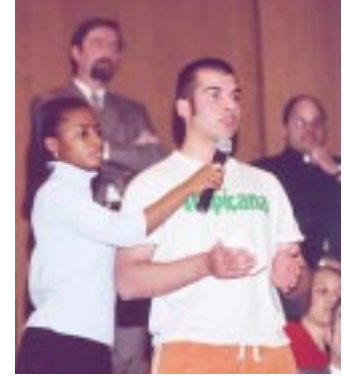
Turkish quatrain on the virtues of the *Basmala* dated 1319 A.H./1901 A.D. by Nazif Bey (1846-1913)

Nativity, Dmitri Andreyev, 1988





(from left to right)
Forum Moderator,
Professor James Burke



Robert A. Carillo
Special Projects
Coordinator for the NYS
Unified Teacher's Assoc.
and Seymour Fliegel,
President of the Center for
Educational Innovation
at the Manhattan Institute.

Concordia student,
Michael LaVoie
gets a word in edgewise.

Superintendent
Ronald Ross,
Mt. Vernon Schools

Marlene Lund
executive director,
Lutheran Schools
Association of NY

Instructor of
history, James C.
Burke was a new
arrival to our
campus in Sep-
tember. A Ph.D.
candidate at
Northwestern
University, he
recently planned
and moderated
the very successful
public forum,
"Alternatives in
Public Education."

James C. Burke

The Paradox of Public Education

"We conclude that in the field of public education the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place," wrote United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren in May of 1954. "Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal." The Warren Court's decision was an accurate commentary on the state of American public education, and would in time provoke an unprecedented wave of federal intervention in America's public schools. Today, America spends more money per student in its public school system than any other country in the world. Paradoxically, however, dissatisfaction with our public schools has grown. The Bush Administration's recent education initiative claims that America is in the throes of a "genuine national crisis," and that we remain two nations—"one that reads, and one that doesn't." And so the perception remains that in the nearly fifty years since *Brown vs. Board of Education*, little has changed—American education is still separate and unequal.

Consequently, the past decade has seen growing momentum for alternatives to the current public school system. In late February, Concordia College hosted a forum on issues in public education featuring leading voices on either side of the alternatives debate. Marlene Lund, executive director of the Lutheran Schools Association, echoed the argument of voucher advocates that means-tested vouchers represent the only way to begin to even the playing field in education by providing poor and predominantly black parents with some of

the same private educational choices wealthier families have for their children. Ron Ross, superintendent of public schools in nearby Mt. Vernon, disagreed with Lund, alleging that vouchers represent a racist countermovement to *Brown*—an attempt by white families to resegregate public education at taxpayer expense. Yet momentum for vouchers continues to grow. Today, several cities and states are experimenting with voucher variants. And President Bush's new proposal includes a controversial provision for parents of children at poorly-performing schools to receive publicly-funded vouchers.

A more recent and slightly less controversial alternative is found in the charter school movement. Charter schools are public schools that are independent of established educational bureaucracies. Seymour Fliegel, president of the Center for Educational Innovation at the Manhattan Institute, argues that charter schools promote innovation, choice and competition within the present system by shifting accountability away from inefficient centralized administration. For this reason they have generally encountered resistance from teachers' unions and those from whom charter schools wrest control. Opponents also argue that those parents most likely to avail themselves of alternatives like charter schools are disproportionately white. So like their sisters in the voucher movement, charter school advocates find themselves susceptible to the argument that they represent little more than a clever attempt to resegregate public education.



What voucher and charter school opponents find hard to deny, however, are polls which demonstrate increasing support for alternatives in public education. Support for vouchers has increased progressively since 1980: A recent Phi Delta Kappa poll found that sixty-two percent of Americans favor giving parents government-funded school vouchers to pay for tuition at the public, private or religious school of their choice. In 1998, New York became the latest of thirty-six states to embrace charter schools, of which there now exist about 1,500 nationwide. Moreover, black Americans are more likely than white Americans to respond favorably in polls to alternatives like vouchers and charter schools.

Yet the broader picture of just what Americans want in public education remains unclear. The same polls which reveal that forty-eight percent of Americans are satisfied with their own public school show that eighty percent are unsatisfied with the public education system. And the same Americans who are turning in increasing numbers to alternatives like vouchers and charter schools also demand that the federal government direct even more resources into the current system.

The great paradox of public education in America is that federal intervention in public education seems to create the very disaffection it purports to address. The failure of so many schools to adhere to Brown forced courts to intervene in public education in an appropriate and necessary way. But it also opened an entryway for federalization of public education through legislated mandates and judicial activ-

ism. As government—prodded by a Civil Rights Movement and new support for the liberal state in the Movement's wake—expanded its reach into new areas of life, it produced growing waves of “conservative” sentiment for freedom from the state. Battles in public education survive as a microcosm of those same forces, and stand as a window into the schizophrenic mind of the American voter—tugged at from both sides by the liberal ethic and by historic American localism. Which explains in part how Americans can support a federal role in desegregating and secularizing schools, just as long as it is “not in my back yard.”

If history is any guide, solutions will prove elusive. As in 1954, battles over public education reflect social realities—real and chronic inequities of class and race. Black Americans have good reason to support alternatives, and good reason to object to them. It is they as individuals who stand to benefit the most. And it is they as an ethnic group who stand to suffer the most from withdrawals of capital from the public school system, the consequence of vouchers and charter schools. Undoubtedly, what is now a matter of race becomes less so with each passing year as black Americans slowly struggle up from a legacy of slavery: In the past six years, the number of black Americans sending their children to private schools has nearly doubled. Class may one day supersede race. But the conflict over education is likely to remain.

We like to think that history demonstrates how much we as people have progressed. More accurately, it shows us how little we have changed. We remain today what we have always been in America—separate and unequal.



Ben Bahr

Concordia Organ Series Pulls Out All the Stops

Whether it be in the form of an intricate, masterful fugue by Johann Sebastian Bach or a simple, four-part hymn, the music of the pipe organ seems to have the ability to bypass the superficial and speak directly to our hearts. At the loud blast of the reed pipes, we experience excitement and energy, while the gentle song of the flute pipes brings peaceful tranquility. However, producing feelings such as these requires the talent of a skilled organist combined with the versatility of a magnificent instrument. Concordia College offers both of these in the well-received Concordia Organ Series, part of the Music at Concordia series of concerts.

The Organ Series is meant to showcase world-renowned artists as well as the beautiful Margarete Guenther Memorial Organ in Concordia's acoustically superb Sommer Center for Worship and the Performing Arts. Indeed, the phrase "world-renowned" is not used lightly. This season's performers included James David Christie, organist for the Boston Symphony, the first American to win first prize in the International Organ Competition in Bruges, Belgium, and the first person ever to win both the first prize and the prize of the audience; Martin Jean, associate professor of organ at the Yale School of Music, awarded first prize at the International Grand Prix de Chartres competition at Chartres Cathedral in France, and first prize at the National Young Artists' Competition in Organ Performance held by the American Guild of Organists; and Concordia's own dean of academic services, professor of organ and church music, and college organist Dr. Richard Heschke, who has performed at national and regional conventions of the American Guild of Organists, and has a well-earned reputation as an organist virtually without peer as a technical virtuoso.

A world-renowned performer is nothing, however, without a superb instrument on which to play. The Margarete Guenther Memorial Organ is one such instrument. Built by Jaekel in 1985 (*Opus 7*), this two-manual tracker organ responds to the musician's touch with extreme precision and absolute honesty. Its twenty-one stops speak with unrivaled clarity—yet, when used properly, are powerful enough to shake the walls. This organ is a wonderful complement to the skills of the organists in the organ series.

The Concordia Organ Series is one of the highlights of Concordia's music program, and we are proud to present it. By the time you read this, the series will be finished for the year, but do not despair; it will return! We look forward to seeing you at Concordia next year for The Concordia Organ Series 2002.

Ben Bahr is a senior, pre-seminary student specializing in church music and a member of St. John Lutheran Church, Rome NY.

The Concordia Organ Series was made possible in great part by the generous support of Kenneth and Mary Werring of Mahwah, NJ. Their support is given in loving memory of Harold and Adele Werring, The Rev. Howard L. Halter, Doris Voester, Carl F. Weidmann, and many others who shared the light of Christ day after day. It is with deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks that they shared this support with Concordia.

Kurt Bodling

Queen For A Day



Carol Snyder, Concordia's Homecoming Queen for 1962 crowns the 1964 Queen, Mary Reitz on the stage in Schoenfeld Hall. Those members of the court pictured here are (left to right): Warren Sambach, Nancy Dunckleman, Jack Trinklein, Mary Reitz, Carol Snyder, Lynn Scheuerlein and Hank Withoeft. Also in the homecoming court (as pictured in the 1965 yearbook) were Carl Walker, Jan Taylor, Judy Appleby and Paul Scherer.

Honorable Men



These eight Concordia Prep students were the returning members of the National Honor Society chapter in the fall of 1959. New members were added after the first semester. The students pictured here are (seated left to right): Paul O'Connor '61, Jeff Travers '60, Tom Slack '60, and Eric Pettersen '61; and (standing left to right): Tom Dohrman '60, Ted Steege '60, William Vaughan '60 and Dan Guenther '61.

Rev. Kurt Bodling, associate professor and director of library services, is also the college archivist. If there's something you'd like to see in "From the Archives," email him at kab@concordia-ny.edu or phone 914-337-9300, ext. 2210.



Concordia!

the time of your life

Summer Homecoming June 2, 2001



Friday and Saturday, May 11 and 12:

50 Year Class Reunion! Prep and Junior College classes of 1951

Saturday, June 2: Summer Homecoming!

Everyone is welcome with special celebrations for classes ending in '1 and '6: 1941, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96 upon request.

Saturday, September 29: Fall Homecoming!

25th Reunion Celebration for the Class of 1976

Call **1 800 YES-ALUM** or check out our website at

www.concordia-ny.edu for more information and to register online.

Calendar of Events

April 27 – May 12

The Concordia Gallery: Student Exhibition
Opening Reception, Thursday, May 3, 7 PM

Sunday, April 29, 8 PM

Concordia Festival Chorus and Orchestra
Music at Concordia Series

Saturday, May 12

Commencement and 50th Year Class Reunions
Prep and Jr. College class of 1951

Friday, June 1 and Saturday June 2

Concordia Confirmands Retreat
Tri-district LCMS confirmands

Saturday, June 2

Summer Homecoming: Reunions for classes
ending in '1 or '6: 1941, '46, '51, '56, '61, '66, '71, '76,
'81, '86, '91, '96

June 25 – July 13 and July 6 – August 3

Summer at Concordia Camp Program
Registration information: 914-395-4848

Saturday, September 29

Homecoming 2001: 25th Year Class Reunion
Jr. and Sr. College class of 1976

Concordia
New Yorker
The Magazine of Concordia College

171 WHITE PLAINS ROAD
BRONXVILLE, NY 10708

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
JACKMAN ME.
04945
PERMIT NO. 10