

Sports

Sword, Concordia University

May 2000

Coach Dennis Getzlaff Appointed Director of Concordia Athletic Department School hopes to name new men's basketball coach by June 1

By Joe Austin

Concordia University, St. Paul head men's basketball coach Dennis Getzlaff has accepted the newly created position of director of Athletic Promotions and Events.

Getzlaff, 50, will oversee athletic promotions and events, as well as assisting on fund raising and corporate sponsorships.

"I'm very appreciative of the enthusiasm and skills Dennis has brought to the basketball program over the years," said Concordia athletic director Dan O'Brien. "I am pleased that this new position will enable him to continue contributing to the success of Concordia's Athletic Department."

Getzlaff has been a fixture on the Concordia campus since coming to the school in 1988.

Coach Getzlaff is the winningest coach in Concordia history.

He has served in a variety of other roles, including assistant to the vice president for Student Affairs, Head Volleyball Coach and Athletic Director. Getzlaff came to Concordia University after a successful high school coaching career in Kansas that included two state titles.

The winningest coach in school history with 142 victories, Getzlaff's teams won one Upper Midwest Athletic Conference championship and made five NAIA playoff appearances.

In the Golden Bears' first year in the NCAA Division II level Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, the team finished eighth with a 5-13 record, and a 10-20 record overall.

"It's exciting to see Concordia's athletic program growing and thriving, and I'm glad I will be a part of that continued success," Getzlaff said. "However, it's time for me to channel my energies into a different area here. I've truly enjoyed coaching at Concordia, but this was simply too good an opportunity to pass up."

Getzlaff expects to start his new duties June 1.

O'Brien said a search for a new coach will start immediately. "I hope to have somebody on board by June 1,"

"It's time for me to channel my energies into a different area here."

O'Brien said.

In the interim, Getzlaff and his assistant coaches will remain on staff and oversee the program until a head coach replacement is identified.

Strong Season for Softball

By Dan Steffen

The Golden Bears softball team started its inaugural Division II season on the right paw.

Skipper Tom Rubbelke, who is in his third season at CU, heads the golden girls in their journey into the NSIC.

The Bears started their season in California where the "price was right" and the bears compiled an 8-1 record. In California, the bears were led on the mound by Paige Dopp, who went 4-1, and Joey Menart who went

4-0, including an astonishing perfect game. Leading the bats for the Bears was freshman sensation Penny Witzenburg, with two long balls, and was matched by Sheila Hanson, who also had two.

With their busy schedule the girls even had time to make an appearance on national television on the game show "The Price is Right."

Out of the sun and back into the cold weather of Minnesota, the Bears played host to numerous teams at the Rice Dome.

Once again, Penny Witzenburg led the bats, hitting a homerun and a grand slam in the same game. Witzenburg compiled seven RBI's as the girls stomped Mayville 8-0, and went on to a 3-1 record at the dome. Witzenburg was named NSIC player of the week for her showing at the dome. Paige Dopp also captured a nomination for the NSIC pitcher of the week award.

With an overall record of 19-3 the bears share a piece

of the Pie with Winona State for first place in the NSIC with a 6-1-conference record. The Golden Bears softball team is on their way to improving their 31-16 showing of last year under the senior leadership of Angie Piche' and Andrea Miller. "The true test is coming" said coach Tom Rubbelke when the Bears travel to Mankato to face the seventeenth team in the Country St. Cloud State.

In that same weekend, the Bears will also see North Dakota State University, who is ranked fourth in the nation. The bears will have to turn to sophomore Paige Dopp who is 10-3 with 104 strikeouts, and Joey Menart who is 9-0 with 35 strikeouts to pass their test.

Hitting will also be a crucial part to holding on to their first place slot. Penny Witzenburg is leading the Bears with a .459

batting average 23 RBI's and 8 homeruns.

Close behind is Freshman Lisa Harfield who is batting .328 with 21 RBI's and 5 homeruns.

Staying on top of the NSIC will be a tough task for the Girls of Concordia, but who would have picked them even to be on top of the NSIC in only their first year?

With a lot of talent and hard work the Golden Bears have already proven themselves on the field. The next few games are important to help them achieve their goal of staying on top of the NSIC conference.

The Golden Bears started their season on the right 'paw' at their tournament in California.

Athletic Awards Presented at 2000 Honors Convocation

Ryan Anderson - Football: 4yr Letter
 Jessie Barnum - Soccer: Academic All-Conference
 Justin Barnun - Soccer: MVP
 Benjamin Bauer - Men's Basketball: 4yr Letter
 Lisa Berwyn - Women's Basketball: MVP
 Erin Bueckler - Indoor Track - All American
 Travis Busch - Football: Academic All-Conference
 Benjiman Coquette - Football MVP, All-Conference, 2nd team
 Josh Delich - Men's Basketball: MVP
 All Conference 2nd Team
 Daniel Dreifke - Men's Basketball: NSIC Player of the Year, 4yr Letter
 Aaron Erkinen - Soccer: MVP, 4yr Letter
 Andrew Fleischman - Football Academic All-Conf.
 Shawn Fondow - Football: 4yr Letter
 Brenda Giesselmann - Volleyball: MVP, 4yr Letter
 John Hannemann - Cross Country: Academic All-Conference
 Lisa Harfield - Women's Basketball All-Conf. Honorable Mention, NSIC Player of the Week
 Laura Kelley - Volleyball: Academic All-Conf.
 Lisa Krause - Volleyball: Academic All-Conf.
 Amy Kuhnau - Soccer: Academic All-Conf.
 Kristina Larson - Soccer: Academic All-Conf.
 Joshua Legband - Cross Country MVP, Academic All-Conference
 Clayton Linder - Football 4yr Letter
 Andrea Miller - Volleyball: Academic All-Conf. 4yr Letter
 Sommer Schmitz - Cross Country: Academic All-Conference
 Chelsea Schultz - Volleyball: Academic All-Conf.
 Jamie Smith - Soccer: MVP Academic All-Conf.
 Dan Steffen - Football: 4yr Letter
 Shane Wasserman - Football: Academic All-Conf. 4yr Letter
 Jodi Werman - Cross Country MVP, Academic All-Conference
 Matthew Woodford - Football MVP, Academic All-Conference, NSIC Player of the Week
 National Division II Player of the Week, 4yr Letter
 Kevin Yamabe - Cross Country: Academic All-Conference, Indoor Track 4yr Letter

These names have been listed based on the names and achievement listed in the "Life is Praise" program of the 2000 Honors Convocation.

The Honors Convocation took place Wednesday, April 26th, 2000 in the Buetwo Auditorium.

Marilyn Fuss Reineck, Professor of Communication Studies, was the host of the event.

(Right)
 On softball's trip to the sunny state of California, they were able to squeeze in a trip to Universal Studios.

(L-R, Back Row)
 Lisa Harfield,
 Paige Dopp,
 Steph Wengelski,

(L-R, Front Row)
 Anna Janke,
 Angie Piche,
 Christine Lofboom,
 Kalief Palmer.

