

Honors Program "Guinea Pigs" Off to a Good Start

by Amy Wolter

This year 17 freshman students are taking advantage of a new general education alternative known as the All-University Honors Program. Dr. Mark Schuler, professor of theology, Greek and archeology, administered the plan of bringing an honors program to Concordia. "As the university becomes more diverse, it's important that we have a diverse range of programs," stated Schuler. Several other faculty members worked with Schuler to put their time and input into developing the program.

According to the official honors Web site, the students have to apply to the honors program and get accepted. Only 20 spots are available for each cohort. Once the students begin the curriculum, they need to maintain a 3.0 GPA in order to continue in the program.

The curriculum is a two year plan that covers all of the general education requirements in 34 credits instead of 48. The classes offered are integrated with each other and are worth more credits than the average gen-ed class. Greta Schulz, a freshman honor student describes why she chose to apply to the program. "I thought it would give me the opportunity to learn how to work with people in such a way that would be beneficial to me down the road."

The program is designed to give the students a look at a broad range of topics while relating them to each other. The instructors work together to teach these classes and give the students an idea of how different subjects work together

in the world, while also focusing on how it all relates to Christian Gospel. Schuler says this is a great program both for the student who has a major picked out and the undecided alike. "Because the gen-ed program is so large, there's not a lot of room to play around. But because the [honors] program is smaller, you can try things out on a higher level in an attempt to determine your direction."

The 17 students and three instructors—Dr. Nan Hackett, Dr. Alisa Potter, and Schuler—have been off to a good start these first few weeks of the semester. When asked how things were going thus far, Schuler said they've "made a good start" and he's already seeing a lot of integration of faith and learning. Andy Dawkins, a freshman also in the program, says he's enjoying his classes so far. "I really enjoy that it's a different class setting. It's interactive more so than other gen-ed classes. Everything that we talk about is mixed with everything else and integrated together."

While the students know that they are the first cohort to be involved in the program, they are excited about the next two years and have only good things to say. "We're the guinea pigs," laughed Schulz, "but so far I like the variety. It does have good potential."

For more information about the All-University Honors Program and to read personal blogs from the students, visit www.csp.edu/honors.

A Special Thank You

Scholarship donors honored
by Dean Erickson

On Saturday, October 7, 2006 Concordia will be inviting all who've generously contributed to making the new scholarship wall possible with a dedication ceremony. This will be one of many events featured during Homecoming weekend.

Concordia recently created the scholarship wall to recognize the many individuals, congregations, foundations and other organizations who have shared Concordia's vision of providing a Christ-centered education for future genera-

tions of students.

The scholarship wall located in the lounge area outside of the Buenger Education Center is now complete and features approximately 150 individual plaques that recognize each established scholarship endowment.

The dedication event will include a light brunch and a short program. There will also be time to have conversations with Concordia students, many of whom have been given scholarship support by endowment gifts. A special Homecoming chapel service led by The Klemp Family Singers will follow the dedication event.



Kathryn Meisle (Annie) and Jay Goede (Henry) in the Guthrie production of "The Real Thing" by Tom Stoppard, directed by Joe Dowling. The show ran from August 5 – September 24, 2006 at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis. *Photo by T. Charles Erickson.*

Rush Out to the Guthrie Theatre

by Rachel Kuhnle

The Real Thing, by Tom Stoppard, follows the life of an English playwright in the 1980s as he struggles to find love, express love, and, ultimately, write love. I saw "The Real Thing" at the new Guthrie location in downtown Minneapolis. "The Real Thing" is an emotional up-hill journey as our protagonist, Henry, beautifully played by Jay Goede, somewhat late in life, discovers what he'd been trying to write of for years.

The play follows Henry through two marriages, both to actresses. His first marriage to Charlotte

(played by Sally Wingert, a long time member of the Guthrie acting company) is marked by years of things unsaid, secrets brushed under the rug with the aid of stark wit and sarcasm. His second marriage to Annie (played by Kathryn Meisle, best known for her 2003 stage role in Tartuff) is plagued by her devotion to freeing a disgruntled soldier, Brodie, imprisoned for setting fire to a wreath at London's Cenotaph War Memorial. When the press loses interest in the soldier, Annie encourages him to write a play, and hilarity ensues.

One of the more genius aspects
REAL continued on page 9



Lee Mark Nelson (Max), Jay Goede (Henry) and Kathryn Meisle (Annie) in the Guthrie production of "The Real Thing." *Photo by T. Charles Erickson.*