

# THE SWORD

Concordia College, 275 North Syndicate, St. Paul, MN 55104

## Concordia Student in '94 Los Angeles Quake

by Brian Wilhorn

Nearly everybody has seen the destruction and tragedy that an earthquake can leave behind. We saw it in 1989 in San Francisco and now just recently in Los Angeles. The mass media crews have brought us shots of what the latest quake, measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale, has done. We've seen highways collapsed on one another, gas explosions, and numerous injuries and fatalities. The latest death toll number in the LA quake has been placed at 55. The media brings us all of these things, but it can't really bring home the feeling of what it's like to actually be there.

Living here in Minnesota we don't usually get that chance. Tom Langemo, however, did get that chance. He was staying in Los Angeles when the earthquake hit at 4:30 am on Monday, January 17.

Tom was in California working at a camp for the blind in Malibu. When the quake hit, he and his roommates were sleeping on the fifth floor of a hotel, about 3 miles from the Los Angeles airport and approximately only 15 miles away from the epicenter of the quake.

To illustrate the power of the quake, Tom said that one of his roommates was awake when the quake hit and he actually was knocked from his feet. Because he was sleeping, Tom said that he didn't really realize what was going on until he began to be shaken out of his bed.

One of the weirdest parts about the quake is that the view out the window of the hotel kept changing because the building was swaying so much, Tom said. Since it was so early in the morning and everyone was woke up by the movement, Tom didn't really hear the low rumble that is often

described. "All I really remember hearing was things rattling and falling and people screaming," Tom recalled.

"We saw and heard the initial blast of that big gas explosion that you saw on TV," Tom said, "the blast was so loud it made my ears ring."

Tom mentioned the difference between seeing the devastation on television and being there. You are able to see how it effects people firsthand. Seeing a lot of the damage on the news the next morning, realizing how close it was, and how lucky he was not to be injured was very scary, he said, but he felt relieved that he was safe. Hearing the death toll constantly rising was also hard to deal with. "I felt lucky to be alive," he said.

Tom said that one of his roommates described the feeling you get in an earth-

quake as a "weird state of helplessness." There's really nothing you can do; you just wait for it to finish.

### Gangelhoff Leaves Legacy to College

News Release

Concordia lost an important friend and benefactor on Saturday, January 8, with the passing of Ron Gangelhoff. A member of Concordia's Board of Regents, Mr. Gangelhoff had become an important part of the college community. As part of the college's "Building on Commitment" fundraising campaign, he and his wife, Doris, recently funded the entire cost of the \$4 million Gangelhoff Center for health and fitness. As former owner and president of Chicago Cutlery, he became involved with Concordia because he was impressed with the Christian mission and concern for the community displayed by the students, faculty and staff of the college.

In 1990, Ron and Doris Gangelhoff made a decision that changed not only the Concordia campus, but the whole landscape of its surrounding neighborhood. In conjunction with the college's centennial, Concordia is conducting a fund raising campaign, which has surpassed its goal of raising \$18.5 million, and has since been targeted to raise \$22 million. A much needed health and fitness center to replace the college's outdated gym was not originally included in the campaign drive because it didn't seem financially possible. The Gangelhoffs recognized that the college, local churches and the community needed a new facility and donated the funds needed for the entire cost of constructing the 73,000 square foot facility. Since the building's dedication and opening last September, students have been able to compete and learn in the new state of the art building.

Ron Gangelhoff was a member of the Concordia College board of regents from

*Continued On Page 2*

## HMS Annual Mission

by Jen Slinkman

On February 25, when many school sponsored trips will be taking off for their various destinations, two 15 passenger vans will also be pulling out. No, these people aren't going to Germany to sing and dance, and they won't be taking clarinets, trumpets or drum sets along. These 30 people are just bringing plenty of work clothes, a good attitude, and a willingness to serve God in a unique way.

HMS (Hispanic Mission Society) is a group of students that travels down to El Paso, Texas to work on the Ysleta Mission. While on the mission, students will scrape, paint and assist with any other maintenance project that the mission needs help with. Some will also have the opportunity to work with children on the mission or help with the missions hot lunch program that feeds many people in the community for only 25 cents. This year, as in past years, some students will also travel

across the border into Juarez, Mexico to help with the Lutheran Church there. A new part of the trip this year will hopefully include going into the barrios of Juarez where the Ysleta Mission is working on building an orphanage/daycare center to aid the children of the surrounding community.

While the group spends the majority of their time working in these various capacities, there is also some time allowed for new experiences in a culture very different from our own. Several hours will be spent in the marketplace in Juarez where students will have the opportunity to barter for items.

One afternoon will be spent climbing to the top of Cristo Rey, a mountain with a beautiful cross on the top. From the summit of this mountain you can see Mexico, New Mexico and Texas. Other new experiences include being involved in Spanish church services and meeting a great variety of people.

Many of the people that come to the mission in El Paso, and those that we will go and see in Juarez, are desperately in need of items that we take for granted in our day to day life. Beginning on Monday, February 14 through Monday, February 21, HMS will be sponsoring a campus wide drive to collect some of the items that can be brought down to help these people. The items that we collect will be given away at the mission and in the barrios of Juarez to people who need them. Please consider contributing any of the items from the list below.

Collection boxes will be at the front desk of the Student Union and at various other locations on campus. Keep an eye on the Daily Bulletin for other collection box sites. HMS would ask that the next time you go to buy any of the items below for

*Continued On Page 2*

<b>INSIDE SENATE UPDATE</b> See News Page 2	<b>Page Education Scholars</b> See Variety Page 3	<b>Comets on a Roll!</b> See Sports Page 7	<b>Art Among Us</b> See Arts Page 9	<b>The Death of Smigley?</b> See Opinion Page 11
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