

Women's Golf Team Takes 1st at Wayne State and 5th at Upper Iowa

By Helena Woodruff

The Concordia University women's golf team played in the Wayne State Spring Invite in Wayne, NE. The girls played strong throughout the tournament scoring a 320 the first day and a 317 the second giving the team a nine stroke victory.

Junior, Kaytie Spangler took second place with an 82 the first day and a 74 the second. Spangler said, "It was nice to finally have things fall into place with my game. It has been a long time coming. What was even better was that it gave us an opportunity to win as a team, which also hasn't happened for a while. I'm hoping this win early in the season will help vault us into a successful spring."

Freshman, Laura Petterson took fourth place with a 76 the first day and an 82 the second. Petterson said, "I felt myself and the team played very well. It was great to win early in the season and get momentum for upcoming tournaments."

Three out of the six women placed in the top ten during the invite. Taylor Auman finished in 7th, Molly Noser in 9th, and Amanda Bearson in 10th. This tournament was definitely a step in the right direction for the women's team.

The team went into the Upper Iowa Invitational scoring a 322 to be in 4th after the first day of play. They also shot a 322 the second day giving them a total score of 644 to take 5th place. Molly Noser led the CU team with a total score of 158 (78, 80) to put her in 12th place.

The CU women's team will be moving onto The Park University Invitational on April 12-13 and the Mankato Invitational on April 17-18. If they play well they have a shot at advancing to the regional tournaments in Brandon, SD on April 23-25.

CU Men's Golf Take 5th at Wayne State and 2nd at Upper Iowa

By Helena Woodruff

On March 28-29th the Concordia men's golf team headed into the Wayne State Spring Invite in Wayne, NE. The team finished fifth with a score of 604 (303, 301).

Junior Alex Timm said, "I feel like we really battled through our rounds all of us are capable of posting low rounds."

We need to work on bringing our talents together, and we will see that come out in our players as we near conference and regional tournaments."

Junior Cory Pike set the pace for the team placing 9th with a 149 (74, 75). Pike said, "Overall, I felt pretty good about my play over the weekend. I didn't hit the ball very well the first day, but I improved that on day two. I'm very happy with my mental attitude I went into the weekend with and how I stuck to my game plan both days. I can't say I would change anything other than making more birdies." Pike was followed by Alex Timm who placed in 13th with a 150 (74, 76).

Going into the Upper Iowa Invitational on April 2-3, the men started strong on the first day firing a score of 291; they led by two. On the second day, they shot a 305 giving them a total score of 596; they took second place behind St. Cloud State University.

Tying for third was sophomore Jeremy Tetrault with a score of 147 (74, 73). Nick Jarrett tied for 5th with a score of 148 (72, 76). John Potter also placed in 10th with a score of 149 (72, 77).

The men have a chance at advancing to Regional's this spring, but they will have to play well and finish high at the conference tournament on April 9-11 in Lake City, MN. The NCAA National Regional Championships will take place on May 3-5 in Palm Desert, CA. The Championships will take place May 18-24 in Noblesville, IN.

Young Bears

By Kevin Jose

Concordia's baseball team is currently 2-7 in the NSIC and 10-20 overall. The Golden Bears have a young team to work with including 17 first year players with 13 of them being freshman. With only four seniors on the team, the Golden Bears will be carrying the experience they gain over into next season.

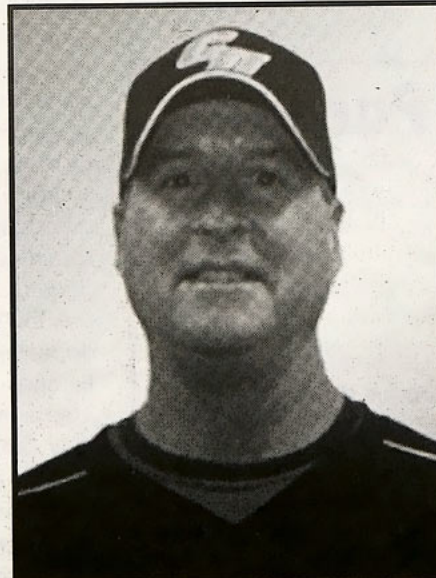
Q and A with Coach "Lunch" McKenzie

Kevin: How is team chemistry?

McKenzie: Team chemistry is good but is still a work in progress. We have 17 first-year players including 13 freshmen. We are working hard to develop a strong bond, but it sometimes takes a little longer when the kids are fighting for positions and playing time. We have a great nucleus and are working to get better every day.

Kevin: What are your team's strengths and weaknesses?

McKenzie: Our strength is our pitching depth and our hitting. Our defense and base running are areas that we need to improve on as well as



Coach "Lunch" McKenzie

our knowledge of the strategies of the game.

Kevin: How do you feel the team is doing overall?

McKenzie: We have been in every game win or lose. At times we have found ways to beat ourselves, but some of that comes from inexperience and youth. We have had seven freshmen play substantially and with that comes

a learning curve. The players are working hard to get better and we look forward to seeing how the experiences pay off in the long term.

Kevin: Any thoughts on a new field?

McKenzie: Our field had several renovations this past fall with soccer moving to Sea Foam Stadium. We are grateful for the work that was done. We would love to have field turf in the future; it would allow us to play earlier and in adverse weather conditions and it would save money and work in time.

Kevin: Can you touch on the team leadership?

McKenzie: We have only four seniors on the team. We do not select captains; we let the leaders develop and come forward on their own. Once again that is a work in progress. This team is similar to the Twins when Mauer and Morneau were rookies. Short term, we are losing some games that we would like to think we could have won, however we have beat some very good teams along the way also such as UNO, Wayne State and Southwest MN State.

Kevin: Any standout players as of late that you could mention?

McKenzie: Several players are hitting well such as sophomore, Bryan Lippincott, senior, Brenden Furrow, and Junior, Jon Stockton. Freshmen Hogan Jackson and J.T. Schneider have come on lately at the plate and junior pitchers Nick Anderson & Ryan Rodeck as well as sophomores, Chris Peterson and Ben Lemke and freshmen Andy Fagely & Griff Kilber have competed well for us.