

# Concordia May Lose CTP Truck and Sports Webcasts

Fire code violations in Marshall building endanger the continuance of CTP

By Kristi Loobeek

The Concordia Television Production (CTP) truck and the webcasts it produces may soon be a thing of the past due to its fire code expulsion from the Marshall building, its current home.

Television Production Manager, Zachary Schuster, said that the truck was bought in 2006 from a Burnsville public access station and over the past years has had enhancements made to it in order to create webcasts for many sports across campus.

"The truck is essentially the control room for our athletic broadcast," said Schuster. "Before we had the truck, we only did webcasts for our volleyball and basketball games, and then we moved all the equipment into the truck so we could start doing football; the long term idea was possibly soccer, baseball, softball, those outdoor sports that we couldn't do before," Schuster said.

Schuster explained that the problem branches, not from the truck, but from the Marshall building. "The area is being used for a weight room, for storage and also for storing a vehicle. There are issues with the fire code where if, God forbid, people had to get out of there quickly, that would be difficult." The real problem arises when realizing the truck cannot be stored outside. "The concern is how cold it gets in the winter here. We have a lot of LCD monitors in the truck and also some other sensitive electronic equipment,

whereas if it gets too cold it could actually damage it," said Schuster. With winter temperatures dropping well below zero in St. Paul, keeping the truck outside is just not an option.



Solutions on campus and off are being considered. Schuster added "we're hopeful in finding a place for the short term or long term, we have some challenges to face and we've come a long way in the last three years in having the truck. It would be a shame to see it go."

As for the future of the truck, many things are still up in the air. Right now the truck has been given a temporary home, to be plugged in and kept warm during the winter. Webcasts for the winter basketball season should still take place. However, a long term solution is still to be determined.

On a closing note, Schuster offers up his opinion on all the benefits the truck offers Concordia: "I feel it is a valuable asset to the university as far as the department of communications studies; with students getting hands on course work. It enhances our public image, we give out a high quality product

for people to watch, we're always getting comments on how great the webcast is and that goes back to the students and the effort they put into it. It's a great addition to what our competitive athletics already offers, we're highlighting our student athletes in that great way and I don't think anyone wants to see us stop doing that."

## Don't Get Towed!

How to prevent winter parking nightmares on campus

By Victoria Vasterling

Concordia Security is always looking out for its students. No matter what time of year it is, they promise they will do their best to find spots for students. In the winter time it is especially important to Security that cars be parked near one another, says Security worker Kathy Grimes. But what happens when there is a snow emergency or if a parking lot needs to be plowed? It does not matter what the situation is, students should always be in the know. Depending on the snow emergency situation this winter, Security will do its best to email students and let them know what types of plowing and parking situations will be going on at Concordia. However, there are a few things that students can be doing to keep themselves updated as well.

For students who choose to park on the streets, they should be aware and pay attention to any signs that the City of St. Paul may put up. These signs are usually put up 24 hours in advance of whatever action the city will be taking, and those 24 hours start at midnight. Any student that wishes to park their car for any long period of time should try to park it in one of the schools parking lot, as advised by Director of Security, Mike Mulso. Concordia Security does their best to notify students about what the City of St. Paul is doing on the streets around the school, but are often not given enough warning to do so in a timely fashion—especially when it comes to snow emergencies and plow routes. Mike Mulso encourages students to be aware of what is going on with the weather, and to be checking for any possible changes in parking rules. The City of Saint Paul's website, <http://www.stpaul.gov/index.aspx?nid=905>, has information for students on what snow emergencies and other parking issues might be going on at any point in time. In order to avoid parking tickets from the city students should be alert and stay aware of what plow and emergency plow routes might be.

To avoid getting tickets from the school, students should pay attention to their emails. Concordia Security does its best to keep students informed when it comes to what parking lots they should not park in due to snow plowing. Students are given 24 hours of notice when any certain parking lot is going to be plowed. Security may ticket or drop-tow (which means towing your car to another appointed parking lot on campus, in which you will be responsible for the up to \$60 fee) cars that are not moved within the 24 hours. According to Mike Mulso, students will often be called and told to move their car before ticketing or towing will happen. In their emails,



RLC Parking Lot. Photo By Briar-Rose Jacobson

Security often tells students what parking lots they should park their cars in while others are plowed. If a student is wondering about the location of any of Concordia's parking lots, they can go to Concordia's parking information website at <http://concordia.csp.edu/security/Parking/index.html>. As a student with a Concordia Parking Permit, they should be aware of all parking rules and locations of the available parking lots.

The school's Security offers an escort program to any student that wishes to take advantage of it. If there is ever a situation where a student wishes to get a ride from a parking lot to the school—whatever the situation may be—they can give security a call and get picked up and brought to another location. Mulso recommends that students call when they are on their way to a parking lot, or what have you, so that Security has time to get to them. The number to call for this Escort Program is 651-641-8777.

Being aware of whatever parking situation is going on around Concordia is about being respectful of your neighbors. Those who do not cooperate with whatever towing is going on will effect three to four spots where other vehicles could have parked, due to the fact that a plow may have to go around them—which creates huge mounds of snow that can be hazardous. Be smart this winter by planning ahead and being aware of what is happening at Concordia during this wonderful winter season.