

Concordia Football Update

By Cydi Yang

The second-to-the-last game on Nov. 7 against Southwest MN State, was Seniors Day, which recognized the 16 seniors on the team. It was a touching ceremony: 15 minutes before the game, the whole football team and the cheerleaders formed a long pathway for the seniors to walk through as they were addressed and greeted by their families.

As the season came to an end, the overall record results; 1-10. Taking in the fact that there have been many injuries this year, forcing many of the young players to take on starter positions, and the hiring of a new defensive coach, the whole year has been a new experience, and in need for everyone to build chemistry and experience as a team. Alquawn Vickers, a red-shirt freshman wide-receiver says, "We are a young team. It's everybody's first year starting and playing."

One thing has been going well for the season, says head coach Ryan Williams. "There are great kids in our program. Everybody continues to come to work with a positive mindset to improve and attack each week as its own week." Coach Williams adds that one thing that the team consistently stopped the run on defense. One struggle was the defense giving up too many big plays through the air.

Offensively speaking, Coach Williams said, "We do so many good plays with the ball in hand. When executed properly, we can make big plays." He adds that the team hasn't had the depth yet, meaning the young players haven't had the experience and feel of playing at the level at which they are supposed to be playing.

According to CUgoldenbears.com, as of November 11th, 2015, Coach Williams stepped down from his position. Derek Branch, the tight end/running back coach, who's been with Concordia since 2007, took on the position until another head coach is found. Exciting things the team is looking forward to is the recruitment of new players who hold great skill and talent and also the promising freshman that will be playing next year. RaQuan Cunnigan, red-shirt freshman running back says that he is looking forward to practicing and learning from his experiences. Vickers says that he's looking forward to everybody getting used to being around each other, being more comfortable and trusting each other.

Vickers, who is seen by many as a great player on the team, commented on how he can do his part to help the team: "Honestly I just worry about myself, what I have to do, all I do is natural, once the ball in my hand, I'm a whole different person, you got to have that swag."

With the mindset of Vickers, it's promising that the team can rise up from this season and look forward to next year with a strong mentality. This team has been put through many adverse situations, so next year they'll be aware of different game scenarios that can occur on the field. This will teach the players to think on their feet under pressure, and build their mentality for a successful year in 2016.

Volleyball Update

End of Season Update

By Cydi Yang

With the season coming to an end, the Concordia volleyball team played a spectacular season with a regular season record of 24-4. The team possesses great talent and they have a big name to live up to.

Heather Schiller, a senior middle blocker said, "We are really excited for the end of the season. We strive off the end of the season. It energizes us and pumps us to get to play some great teams."

Kasey Williams, a junior setter, Hope Schiller, a freshman outside head/defensive specialist, Heather Schiller, and Brady Starkey, the Head Coach, all agree that the one thing the team can work on is keeping the level of play consistent. Hope Schiller said, "Even though we lost two games, they were eye openers, and we just need to keep coming back and focus." Williams adds by saying, "We want to be the best team capable of being and reach our total potential." And the team is doing just that, finishing off the win for the last two in-season home games, especially against Southwest Minnesota State on Saturday, Nov. 14th who they anticipated as a challenging team to play against.

As the host for this year's NSIC tournament, their three games



played resulted in great success for the Golden bears with a three victories. The score was tight and the level of play from both teams displayed great focus and astounding talent, but CU surpassed, with a satisfactory win. Fans were plenty and high-spirited, as they rose from their seats clapping and cheering the Golden Bears on for their game point. According to cugoldenbears.com, the team has won their fourth NSIC Tournament and is proud to showcase their first win since the team's three in a row streak in 2004-2006. The team has earned their spot as number one seed and hosted the first rounds for the NCAA tournament.

According to cugoldenbears.com this was their 12th out of 13 eligible seasons to enter the NCAA finals. They built up momentum playing 3-0 games against Southwestern Oklahoma and Central Oklahoma during the first rounds of Region's tournament played this weekend, but for the first time in the season, CU lost 0-3 against Wayne state. Even though the season has come to an end for the CU volleyball team, all their accomplishments they reached this year were outstanding. The intensity and excitement during games was something that never disappointed the fans.