



## CU Dance Named Official Sport as Team holds Clinic fo Homecoming

By Israel Lopez

In 2006, Concordia University formed a make-shift dance team that, with hard work and dedication, has now become an official sport for the University in 2009. The team has been great entertaining our University in the past at numerous athletic events. This school year, they are better than ever.

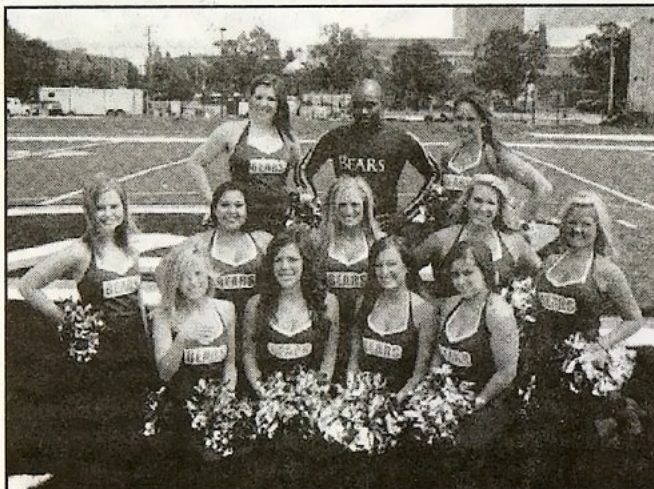
The team is no longer a make-shift team; it is now a requirement to have dance experience in order to even try out. "That in itself has made the team a lot more competitive," says team captain Natalie Cochran. After tryouts, the team whittled down to fourteen solid dancers. Along with

various new outfits and dance routines, the team also has a new star that is said to spark the girls in more ways than one. This spark is Jessie Hollie. He is the first male dancer ever at Concordia University. "Not only does he bring great dancing skills, but he seems to

up of Paige Hillig, Jessica Swenson, Becky Erickson, Ana Jenny, Nicole Zauhar, Sarah Vreeland, Samantha Jensen, Kaitlen Young, Anne Nemo and Bethany Valentin. Though the team will be dancing at every home game of the football season, they are extremely excited about this year's Homecoming game on October 10th.

To prepare for the festivities, they are having a dance clinic for kids, where they will teach them a fun dance routine to be performed at halftime on the field. It will only cost each kid \$15 to participate and they will receive a free ticket to the game, food, a new t-shirt and a great seat to watch the Golden Bears face off against the Marauders of the University of Mary. To add to the excitement, the team plans to dedicate the dance to Michael Jack-

son. There is no way to go wrong with the King of Pop. It is going to be a fun school year for athletics! Make sure you purchase all your food and beverages before halftime because you will not want to leave your seat when the Concordia Dance Team hits the stage.



(top row left to right: Paige Hillig, Jessie Hollie, Jessica Swenson;  
middle row left to right: Becky Erickson, Ana Jenny, Natalie Cochran, Nicole Zauhar, Sarah Vreeland;  
bottom row: Samantha Jensen, Kaitlen Young, Anne Nemo, and Bethany Valentin)

## New Look Volleyball is Top in Nation

By Samantha Jensen

The Concordia volleyball team started up the 2009 season strong! They have started out 15-0 and continue to hog the number one ranking in the country.

Senior Maggie McNamara said, "We have some big holes to fill with Maria and Whitney gone, but other players are stepping up amazingly well." She is referring to Maria Steinhagen and Whitney Meierotto who both graduated. Both were intricate parts to the team's success.

The team has changed and persevered adding new members to the team. Cassie Haag, a freshman from Plymouth, MN; Kara Pioske, a freshman from Waconia, MN; Michelle Graham, a freshman from Woodbury, MN.

Freshman Cassie Haag went errorless with a .737 hitting average on Saturday September 12th against Augustana. Maggie McNamara said, "The freshman are all fitting in great on the team, and as freshman, they are getting some playing time which is great, and definitely doesn't happen for every incoming freshmen." In other words, the new young additions to the team are earning their spots in the lineup through their strong play.

The team practices hard and knows that there is never a substitute for hard work. With the teams exciting new players mixed with the hardnosed veterans, the team is in line for another strong season.

## Coach Stockwell's Farewell: The Inside Story

By Kevin Jose

The former assistant coach of Concordia's women's basketball team, Kerri Stockwell, recently resigned from her position. Coach Stockwell decided to resign from her coaching position at Concordia University to pursue her doctorate in public health. She has been a coach here since 2002. She had a few things to say about her experience as a coach.

One of the first things she talked about was how basketball is similar at every level. Skills and basic fundamentals are similar as far as high school and college. She talked about how the intensity changes as a player gets higher in playing level. Also a big change from the high school level to college is the amount of time athletes and coaches put into the sport.

When commenting on one of her favorite memories, Coach Stockwell stated, "Beating North

Dakota in regional tourney to go to sweet 16, the joy of watching the players perform at such a high level and beating the odds after losing two starters to knee injuries was inspiring to watch."

Since she started coaching here in 2002, there has been little change. She said one thing that did change was the recruiting and how it is more cutthroat than ever. The team already has 6 verbal commitments from 2010 recruits. Teams are getting commitments earlier than ever.

When asked about the hardest part of resigning, Stockwell said, "It was fun. Coaching was fun. The coaches had a good time together, and the players were serious on the court, fun all the time." She said it was a lot of fun working with the talented athletes and improving their games.

Some advice she would give a first year coach

or coach filling into a new spot: "Have fun when the opportunity arises, keep it fun. Coaching is a big time commitment so be ready for the time commitment, and find opportunities to grow as a coach with both knowledge and ability. Know when to work and when to have fun." Stockwell said, "The opportunity to coach was invaluable to me. I am proud to be associated with women's basketball and athletics in general along with all of the people involved."



Kerri Stockwell

## Upcoming Home Games

### Soccer

September 26 vs. Minnesota State  
September 27 vs. SMSU  
October 2 vs. Crookston  
October 4 vs. MSU Moorhead  
October 10 vs. Minnesota Duluth  
October 16 vs. Upper Iowa  
October 18 vs. Winona State

### Football

September 26 vs. Augustana  
October 3 vs. U-Mary  
October 10 vs. MN State  
October 17 vs. SMSU

### Golf

September 20-21 Husky Invitational  
September 27-28 NSIC/Crossover  
October 4-5 NSIC Championships  
October 10-12 Twin Cities Classic

### Cross Country

September 26 Roy Griak Invite  
October 3 Sean Earl Invite  
October 10 Pine Hill Invite  
October 24 NSIC Champions  
November 7 NCAA Regional

### Volleyball

September 25 vs. Crookston  
September 26 vs. MSU Moorhead  
September 29 vs. Wayne State  
October 3 vs. St. Cloud State  
October 9 vs. Bemidji State  
October 10 vs. Minnesota Duluth  
October 16 vs. Minnesota State  
October 17 vs. Southwest State