

Esports Update

BY MATTHEW WALKER



Photo Credit: Matthew Walker

THIS SEMESTER THE Esports program at Concordia has gotten off to a fairly solid start. The two teams that are competing right now are the Overwatch and Hearthstone teams. They are both off to a great start for this semester's season, with many more games to still come.

The Hearthstone team is currently undefeated after winning their third game this semester. This feels very similar to how things were going last year at this time as they were one of the more dominant teams to compete in the last Hearthstone Tespa Tournament. From the games they have played so far, they have very handily won each game with all of them being 3-0 sweeps. Each game is played as a best out of five. The first to win three rounds takes the win for that game. The Hearthstone team has shown so far this year that they are not here to mess around, and they want to shoot for a championship win at the end of the season. If they keep up this trend of dominating every team they play for the rest of the semester, this should be easy for them to do.

Similarly, Overwatch has also had a very good start to their season. The team is currently participating in a tournament that the coaches put together with other schools around the country while the team waits for the Overwatch Tespa Tournament to start. The team took a win in the first week of this tournament by beating Lourdes Esports 3-0 in a clean sweep to start the season on a high note. In week two, the team faced Marietta and lost to them 1-3 in a very close and hard-fought battle. This put the team at 1-1 going into the third game of the season which was against McMurry University, who was going into this game having a 2-0 record. The Overwatch team was looking to change their record to match theirs so they both were 2-1. After a rough start, and a loss of the first map, the team was able to come back and win the next three maps to take a 3-1 win over McMurry. As it sits now, the Overwatch team is 2-1 with the Overwatch Tespa Tournament starting up soon.

With the Overwatch and Hearthstone teams both getting off to great starts this semester, there is more to the program than just these two teams. The Super Smash Bros Ultimate and League of Legends teams will also be competing later this semester. The Rocket League team has no plans to compete this semester currently, but they are still hard at work improving for their season next fall. Overall, the Esports program is hard at work trying to make a name for themselves in the competitive Esports scene.

CSP Track Athletes Wrap Up Indoor Season

BY ISABELLA D'BURKE

WHILE THE YEAR HAS CERTAINLY been different, the Golden Bears track team still had a solid indoor season. The team traveled all over the midwest, having six meets prior to the indoor conference meet at the end of February. The team started the season travelling to Maryville Missouri for the Mel Tjeerdsma Classic, then traveled to Mankato, Topeka (KS), Fargo (ND), back to Mankato, and finally to South Dakota State University.

The team has been battling continuously throughout the season with many athletes achieving personal bests and breaking school records. Starting off the season strong was Arika Robinson, who broke the high jump school record, and Josh Sims who broke the 600 yard school record. Both were achieved at the first meet of the season in Missouri.

Following the strong start, Kara Lindberg broke the previous 5000m school record in Topeka with a time of 17:45. The next week in Fargo, Lucia Mesfin broke the school record in the 3000m with a time of 10:20. Finally, in Mankato, Christian Davis broke the school record in the long jump with a jump of 7.32m. Not only did the jump break the record, but it placed Davis at the top of the conference list and currently places him seventh in the nation. Impressively, this mark came in his first ever collegiate meet.

The incoming freshmen have had a strong impact on the team as well. The men gained Basheer Alam, Travis Andrews, Thomas Dietel, Peyton Enders, Cullen Feist, James Frigstad, Josh Hauver, Matthew Helser, Jude Nair, Nathan Noble, Austin Schloeder, Josh Sims, and Jaden Williams. The women's side gained five freshmen, Mia Cahalan, Sydney Jackson, Sarah Jeppesen, Courtney Mensah, and Callie Reintsma.

The NSIC will be accepting the top 16 in each event to compete at the conference meet this indoor season. Qualifying so far on the women's team are Toni Canfall (60m and 200m dash), Sydney Jackson (600m run), Lucia Mesfin (3000m and 5000m run), Kara Lindburg (3000m and 5000m run), Christabelle Mulcahy (60m hurdles), Arika Robinson (high jump), Sofia Dodge (pole vault), and Tia Donlan (weight throw). Qualifying on the men's side are Thomas Dietel (60m dash, 200m dash, long jump), LaJuan Preston (60m dash), William Ray (200m dash), Josh Sims (600m run), Matthew Helser (3000m run), Arik Johnson (60m hurdles, high jump, pole vault, heptathlon), Jakob Tordsen (high jump, pole vault, long jump), Christian Davis (long jump and triple jump), Andrew Johnson (long jump), Devin Flakes (triple jump), Keegan Larson (shot put and weight throw), CJ Picazo (shot put), Hunter Quinn (shot put and weight throw), Eben Mundfrom (weight throw), and Josh Hauver (heptathlon).

A select amount of the team will be traveling to South Dakota State University on February 20th for one last attempt to qualify for the conference meet (February 26th-27th). As the season comes to a close the following weekend with the indoor conference meet, the Bears are looking to finish the season strong.



Front: Devin Flakes; Back: Ben Allen

Photo Credit: Rene Elias